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ALL STEEL JACKET

THIS AMMUNITION WARRANTED TO PIERCE ERROR.

The P. O. Clerks Again—Bryan and the Typos—Hearst, Taft, and the Campaign—What Will the Negro Vote. Do?—The Canadian Pacific Strike and What It Shows.

Whatever may be said of Typographical Union No. 209 of Lincoln, Neb., for having elected Bryan an honorary member, its action is not the shameless one of the Idaho Typographical Union that elected Steunenberg. Bryan is still at the stage when his claws have no chance to do harm; Steunenberg, when elected honorary member, had already proved himself to be as vicious a foe of Labor as he was an unconscionable depredator of property in Idaho.

Out of 303 occupations listed in the Census, only 9 have no women working at them. After this, there can be not the slightest doubt that Socialism would drag woman out of her sphere, break up the home, and otherwise stand society on its beam ends. Away with it!

If there was any doubt whether Taft furnished Hearst an advance copy of his speech of acceptance, there can be none that Bryan furnished Hearst with advance copies of the several utterances he has recently been making. How else could Hearst, on July 27, have said of the Bryan combination: "No prudent citizen will support a combination to which Taggart supplies a candidate and Parker a platform, for which Ryan will pay the freight and the people will pay the penalty."

While the Post Office clerks of New York are forbidden, by "Official Circular," either directly or indirectly, individually or through association, to solicit an increase of pay, or . . . in their own interest any legislation whatever, i. e., are forbidden from going into either trade unionism or politics on their own behalf, they are being dunned by a Republican district organization for "\$5 to \$15 contributions to help elect Taft and Sherman." It is good that "a great deal of quiet indignation" is manifested by the clerks. It shows that the hypocritical administration is fast training the army for its own overthrow.

Bryan's decision to omit all reference to the tariff in his speech of acceptance is about as unkind a slight as has ever been put upon Mam'selle Free Trade. Some bouquet might have been thrown, some kind allusion made. Cinderella is not in it with Mam'selle.

\$30,000,000, that is, \$26,000,000, is the niggardly allowance that the British Parliament allows as an Old Age Pension to the superannuated proletarians who have exhausted their strength in producing wealth for the British capitalist class, and the smallness of the pittance which they received from the fruit of their labor is attested by their old age destitution.

Mrs. Longworth, Roosevelt's daughter, is learning though her father lag behind. The waiter girls at the Yellowstone Park having gone on strike, Mrs. Longworth told the proprietor to request the girls to go back to work "as a personal favor" to her, promising besides to pay to each \$5 a day while she remained at the hotel. The girls returned to work. Roosevelt would have thought that the doing of a "personal favor" to him would have been inducement enough.

The brilliant throng of ladies that assembled at the Deal Beach Casino on the 2nd of this month wore such a display of costly clothing and jewelry that, picking out only ten of them—Mrs. Samuel J. Seligman, Miss Madeleine O'Donohue, Mrs. Harry Hemming, Mrs. Robert Guggenheim, Mrs. John E. Dillon, Mrs. Leslie M. Shaw, Miss Florence Murphy, Mrs. Daniel Guggenheim, Miss Violet Krauss and Mrs. Elbridge Gerry Shaw—and calculating the price of a bowl of soup of the class dealt out to the bread line, the wealth worn by these ladies would have been sufficient to drown in soup 3,000,000 unemployed—and "put them out of their misery," as Dean Swift would have said.

The financial reports are agreed that

Taft's letter of acceptance, upon which the superstitious were building great hopes, came and went without producing any miracle. The age of miracles may be over; not over is the age of expecters of miracles.

A legitimate subject of curiosity in this campaign is how will the "Negro vote" conduct itself? Will it continue to look upon itself as a "Race Question," thereby shutting its eyes to the fact that it is essentially a part of the Labor Question, and then turn its back to both the dominant parties? Or will it allow itself to continue to be used as food for capitalist political cannon?

The real estate holders of the city of Paterson, in New Jersey, have the fates to contend against. No sooner did she rise in righteous indignation at the Anarchists, and decided to prove to the country at large and the world in particular that she was a law and order emporium, than a labor driver from Newark, John Casale, picks out that very Paterson to assault young girls in.

"Is the labor question so important to business men as to justify them in ignoring all other issues?" asks Bryan. Doubtless, and necessarily so. The labor question is the one glowing, burning, irrefragable question to-day, and the big capitalists and the wide-awake workingmen realize it, whatever the Rip Van Winkle Bryans may do or say to the contrary.

In the Spanish language, when one desires to convey the idea that a person is snared, his feet tangled and he trips and falls by reason of his own stupid and contradictory doings, they say "he got himself into a shirt of eleven yards." In such a shirt Mr.—no! no!—President and Editor Samuel Gompers, by the grace of "In Humbung We Trust," finds himself just now. How he trips at every turn! How he is all tangled up! How he falls, to rise, get his feet caught and his tongue lassoed, and fall again! The shirt made up of strips of craft unionism, "no politics," "brotherhood of capital and labor," and Easely economics is not a habitable garment.

Infinitely more philosophic than Castro is Diaz. If European millionaires and crowned heads can invest extensively in American securities, and thereby own most of the nation (very much to the satisfaction of the American capitalists), why should not American uncrowned kings invest extensively in Mexican lumber, mines and railroads, etc., likewise to the complete satisfaction of the Mexican property holders?

Upon the magnificent stage of the Canadian territory, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, craft Unionism is about to give one more of its shocking exhibitions. With 12,000 railroad men on strike, the arteries of the land may be said to be inflamed. But all its other craft-unionized nerve centers remain cool—and there will be nothing doing but the recording of another series of Labor betrayals by the labor lieutenants of the capitalist class.

Hunger and desperation caused the four-year-old child of Mrs. Guy Hemmaway of Pittsfield, Mass., to steal a twenty-five-cent piece from her mother. Hunger and desperation, extending over the larger area of Mrs. Hemmaway herself, caused the mother to bind the child's hands with oil-soaked rags and set them afire when the theft was discovered. Here is a text for canting preachers, professors and penny-aliners.

Time was, in the days of the race's childish inexperience, that when a woman "renounced society" she entered a cloister and castigated the flesh. Now, Miss Marian Woolman of Burlington, N. J., a Vassar graduate "renounces society" by marrying G. S. Hewitt, an officer of the Paterson corps of the Salvation Army. The lady's abnegation partakes of the abnegation of those members of her class who start societies for the sake of getting the offices—and salaries attached.

Finland is in the nature of a trades union to the Czar, and he is in the nature of an employer to Finland. Listen to him addressing the Finnish Diet: "You may talk, but you may not act; you may put on airs, but not enough to outsize me; I have no objection to you, provided you do not molest my comforts; so be good."

HE WILL RUE THE DAY

Theodore A. Bell, an eloquent spokesman at the Denver national convention of the Democratic wing of capitalism, that nominated Bryan for President, uttered a number of pithy statements. Of them none was so pithy as that the cry of confiscation is the historic defense of usurpation.

Volumes of historic fact and on the philosophy of history are condensed in that short, pithy, true sentence.

"Confiscation!" cried the Roman patriots, who had robbed the Roman people of their "common acre," when Tiberius and Caius Gracchus condemned the process and sought to restore to the plundered a portion of their plundered inheritance.—"Confiscation!"

"Confiscation!" cried the Pharisees and their Caiaphases when the Nazarene brought home to them their criminal and usurpation; when he pilloried the rich; when he anathematized their process of devouring the working poor.—"Confiscation!"

"Confiscation!" cried the purse-proud

Periodically there is an outbreak of indignation against hazing in our colleges. The outbreak then peters down and things settle back to where they were—and never were much. Quite otherwise with the hazings at the military and naval academies. The youngsters there being brought up to the trade of homicide, the hazings are of such exceptional and monstrous nature that the indignation has caused more than one heated debate in Congress, and is now causing even the Big Stick to squirm.

Saratoga dispatches declare that the good folk of that bad town do not seem offended at the re-opening of gambling there in defiance of the new law; on the contrary, the news goes, they are glad of it, as it attracts visitors, and helps them pay their bills. Yet the Saratogaites are all, doubtless, well meaning Christian folk enough. All that ails them is that they don't recognize the fact that not moral aspirations, but material conditions, determine the course of our actions.

Horrible, indeed, instead of ravingly beautiful to them, should prove the three months the Prince de Sagan and his Gould-Castellani wife are to spend in the Posillipo villa of Garibaldi, the Italian patriot. There is nothing in the power of a guilty conscience if the wrath of every Italian track laborer killed, maimed, and despoiled of his produce by the Gould System does not haunt the corridors of the historic abode, and strike a chill to the heart of its parvenu descendants.

Four men killed because an express went crashing into a section gang, and John Bonavitch, an engineer, found wandering and his reason destroyed as a result of worry over a wreck in which his engine killed a man, are five eloquent sermons in one day against the infamous hypocrisy which bows before the "risks of capital" but casts a frozen stare on the risks of labor.

That harassed, bedraggled gentleman hieing himself out of sight over the sky-line last week, was one Mr. Competition-is-the-life-of-trade. Two English railroad companies had just hit him an awful kick-by entering a joint agreement whereby they were to work together, and thus save—\$1,000,000 a year each.

Is the Prince of Wales, relying on Roosevelt's unfolding monarchical nature, looking for a match with Ethel Roosevelt? Miss Ethel "held the throttle of a locomotive for 'steen miles" a while ago. Now the Prince gives her a Roland for her Oliver by going down into the stoke-hole of H. M. S. Indomitable, and putting in "his thirty minutes of the hot, toilsome, and dirty stoker's work," to the utter ruination of "one white uniform." Men—especially princes—have played bigger comedies than that, when the stake was great enough.

The National Liberal Immigration League is out with a circular letter convicting the legislative agent of the Immigration Restriction League of rank hypocrisy and double dealing. What waste of time! Point the finger to a "backward-race" and we have an object at which to point the finger as a snake in the grass.

bourgeois nobility of the Italian principalities when the noble priest, Savonarola, mouthed the protest of the masses against the plunder of the rich who were betraying the country.—"Confiscation!"

"Confiscation!" cried the landowners of Germany when the demands of the peasants that he who works should own the soil and the crops crystallized in the great Peasants' War.—"Confiscation!"

"Confiscation!" cried the feudal cavaliers of England when the storm of popular indignation rose over the head of Charles I. at the arbitrary course of royal-feudal taxation, that stuck its hands at will into the peoples' pockets, and took therefrom what it wished.—"Confiscation!"

"Confiscation!" cried the British Crown and Parliament when the American colonists resolved this country was and of right ought to be free, thereby wrenching from the grip of the usurpers the fair estate of this country which Crown and Parliament were treating like their private back-yard.—"Confiscation!"

Smith at the beginning of the present year; he communicated them to the Prison Commission, composed of J. S. Turner of Putnam, chairman; Gen. Clement A. Evans of Atlanta, a prominent Confederate veteran, and Thomas Eason of Ben Hill County. The commission then permitted Moore to resign, and issued an order prohibiting wardens in future from accepting any money or gifts from the lessees. That the order has been disobeyed, in many instances, the testimony has abundantly shown.

The Legislature, which met on June 24 for a fifty days' session, found it had to take hold of and settle the question of what disposition shall be made of the convicts when the present contracts expire, early next year. The money derived from convict leases, some \$250,000 a year net, has been distributed among about 120 counties to assist the cause of common school education. They were loath to give it up. It looked as if the lease system would be continued. The counties wanted the money to educate the children; they didn't seem to care where it came from.

Then there was made public all the details of State Warden Jake Moore's trading in convict leases, the practical bribery of the camp wardens by the lessees, and finally there cropped out one or two stories of shocking cruelties which had been perpetrated at various camps.

R. A. Keith, formerly a convict, now pardoned, a white man who had been sentenced for slaying the despoiler of his home, told the committee—and his statement was corroborated by other witnesses—the story of how a sixteen-year-old white boy had been whipped to death by a warden named Goode at the camp of the Durham Coal and Coke Company, in northwest Georgia. Given a year in the penitentiary for stealing two cans of potted ham, the boy one day spilled some hot coffee on a pig belonging to the warden. Keith says he was held down by two men while Goode struck him sixty-eight lashes with a heavy strap. The boy had to be carried to the hospital and in a week he died. The death certificate gave consumption as the cause.

A sixteen-year-old Negro boy named Daniel Long had been brutally whipped in the Worth County Road camp, it is said, for refusal to work. The boy came before the committee accompanied by his mother and exhibited his back. Although healed, it gave evidence of terrible laceration from the lash; the skin had been torn from his left hand and right foot; his right side is partially paralyzed.

Those are but two of the numerous instances of cruelty brought out before the committee, covering a period of ten years, and affecting three-fourths of the camps in the State. Not only are the lease camps attacked, but also those operated under exclusive county and State jurisdiction.

At the camp of the Lookout Mountain Coal and Coke Company, in northwest Georgia, a Negro's arm was broken by falling slate. No surgical attention was given, and the wound healed in jagged shape, making the arm useless. Warden W. O. Maxwell cursed the Negro when he was trying

These facts were reported to Gov.

"Confiscation!" cried the feudal lords of the French régime, who had stolen the land from the Gauls whom they turned into serfs, and, for a thousand and aught years, had treated like cattle.—"Confiscation!" they cried when the thunderclap of the French Revolution crashed over their heads.

"Confiscation!" cry, in this generation, the members of the Czar's Black Hundred at the motto of the land's peasantry—Whose sweat, his the land.

"Confiscation!" cry to-day the "vested interests" in the United States in answer to the well aimed shot of the American Labor or Socialist Movement, aimed at the system of plunder named capitalism.

Just now the near-sighted Democratic, or Bryan, wing of capitalism finds its account in stealing the thunder of the Social Revolution. The day is at hand when Theodore A. Bell will rue his having uttered, and his party's convention its having loudly applauded, the true statement that the cry of confiscation is the historic defense of usurpation.

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PETTIBONE DEAD.

Plot of Idaho Mine Owners Gets One Victim.

Denver, August 4.—George A. Pettibone, for years prominent in the councils of the Western Federation of Miners, and falsely charged, with President Moyer and Secretary Haywood, with complicity in the murder of ex-Gov. Steunenberg, of Idaho, died at St. Joseph's Hospital last night of the effects of an operation for cancer.

Pettibone had been ill ever since his confinement in the Idaho Penitentiary, which lasted more than a year, before the trials at Boise. Pettibone was never formally tried, but the case against him was dropped like a hot potato after the acquittal of Haywood and Moyer.

Up to the last moment, Pettibone was hopeful of pulling through the crisis. His wife and daughters are grief-stricken.

JOHNSON IN HOT WATER.

His Three-Cent Fare Line \$80,000 in Debt to Capitalists.

Cleveland, August 8.—At a secret caucus of the Democratic city council majority, the councilmen voted to sustain Mayor Tom L. Johnson, three-cent fare champion, in an effort to obtain the council's permission to charge a five cent cash fare on all the city's lines. A big deficit is facing the Municipal Traction Co., which must pay a 6 per cent. rental on a \$14,000,000 property to the Cleveland Electric. It is in two months \$80,000 in arrears.

Mayor Johnson would charge a five cent cash fare, the sale of tickets at three cents each to be continued. He declares that nearly all patrons of the road will buy tickets under such a change, and that conductors who row cannot make change fast enough to collect all fares will be able to get all the money and stop the leakage of revenue.

I. W. W. SPEAKERS ARRESTED.

H. Klowansky, who was speaking at a street meeting Aug. 6 at noon time, was arrested and taken to the Jefferson Market Police Court. Klowansky was holding a meeting under the auspices of Cloak Makers' Local 59, of the Industrial Workers of the World. There was a large crowd of fully 1,500 gathered, and the twelve police and six mounted officers, who were on the scene, kept clearing the people from the sidewalk. Later the authorities decided to stop the meeting and ordered Klowansky to get down from the platform, but Klowansky held he had the right to speak, and that no one had a right to make him break up the meeting. He was then taken down from the stand and haled to the Court.

When the case came up in the afternoon, Magistrate Droegge fined Klowansky \$2, on a charge of "disorderly conduct and obstructing traffic." The fine was paid under protest.

It seems there is some friction or else wilful bungling on this matter between the central office and the various precincts. When application is made to headquarters for a permit, answer is returned that a permit is not necessary, that a notice of the meeting is sufficient. When the speakers mount the stand, however, the precinct police almost invariably demand a permit, and as in this case, break up the meeting when one is not forthcoming.

"ADVISE" SOCIALISTS OFF STREETS.

Rockville Centre, August 8.—At a meeting of the village trustees, held last night, upon the request of W. H. Ross asking permission to have two Socialist speakers address audiences in the public streets during the coming campaign, the clerk was directed to notify Ross that the board deemed it advisable for him to secure the rental of some vacant plot of ground in the village whereon to hold these meetings, in preference to the public streets.

NOTHING TO EAT.

Two-Months-Old Babe Dies of Starvation.

Her two-months-old baby unconscious and starved and she herself hardly able to stand from lack of nourishment, a woman of about twenty-six years was found early last week sitting in the Ridgewood station by employees of the Long Island Railroad. Despite the protests of the mother the child was taken away from her and removed to the German Hospital, where it died two hours later. The address given by the woman later. [This is only one of a dozen shocking cases of starvation brought to light during the past week.]

MISLED UNIONISTS

ARE KEPT DIVIDED BY STUPID AND CORRUPT LEADERS.

Locked Out 'Longshoremen of Seattle Not Aided by Sailors or Teamsters—Judge Does Not Hold Striker in Contempt—Business Agent Sells Out W. F. M. and I. W. W. Men.

Seattle, Wash., July 29.—The ship-owners and stevedores along Seattle's wharves recently locked out their 'longshoremen in a fight for the "open shop." The fight was not carried to the sailors or the teamsters: their turn will come some other time. The 'longshoremen belong to a union which "believes in trade union action alone" to improve the workingman's condition. They are trade unionists "pure and simple." That is why they are fighting a one-handed fight.

The men put their pickets along the wharves. The company didn't like this, so it got out injunctions. The United States marshals who were to serve the injunction papers couldn't locate their men, so they posted up the writs along the docks. One of these papers was pulled down by David Forbes, a striker, and he was arrested for contempt of court.

In deciding his case, Judge C. H. Hanford, of the federal court, declined to entertain the complaint that Forbes was guilty of contempt, but held him under \$500 bail to answer a criminal charge under section 5398 of the revised federal statutes.

Attorney Gorham for the steamship companies, expected to see Forbes punished for contempt of court.

"I am unable to deal with the charge as a contempt proceeding," said Judge Hanford, addressing the attorney for the complainant. "There is not evidence enough for the court to hold this defendant on a charge of contempt, although sufficient for holding the defendant for the grand jury to investigate."

The companies have no trouble loading their ships. They have secured plenty of strike breakers, who with the assistance of the sailors and teamsters are keeping traffic moving.

This same 'longshoremen's union, through its business agent, last winter betrayed nine 'longshoremen who were members of the Western Federation of Miners and of the Industrial Workers of the World. These nine were employed by the Pacific Coast Steamship Company loading coal on a steamer at the rate of 50 cents an hour for day work, and 60 cents for night work. But because they didn't belong to the "pure and simple" 'longshoremen's union they were called "scabs."

The business agent of the union called upon this company and made a deal whereby he agreed to accept 40 cents an hour for day work and 50 cents for night work. Then he came around and justified his treachery on the ground that he had gotten rid of the "scabs."

In the present crisis these "scabs" have laid aside their outraged feelings and are standing with the other fellows in the fight. They are showing a decent sense of solidarity and setting a noble example such as no A. F. of L. union is ever taught to do.

OSTRICH PAPA ELIOT.

Still Fighting Socialism with Weapons Obsolete Twenty Years Ago.

Boston, Mass., August 8.—When portions of a magazine article entitled "America's Trouble Makers" were read to President Eliot of Harvard to-day he replied:

"Socialism hasn't a chance in this country because wealth is too diffuse." "If a man has \$100, all his own, he loses all ideas of sharing it with anybody else."

"American people are opportunists; they will adopt institutions, Socialistic or not, if they are practical, but they will not follow an idea beyond the stage where it becomes inefficient."

"Human society is based on self-interest, shaded and concealed, perhaps."

"To have a Socialistic society, where every one thought first of the rest of the world, you would have to change not society, but humanity."

"When any one says that the college is becoming the recruiting ground for Socialism he is wrong."

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S. L. P. CONVENTION IMPRESSIONS, AND SOME OTHERS

BY A. S. DOWLER, BEARDSTOWN, ILL.

When one has spent twenty-two years on the Western frontier and in border States, he is most susceptible to impressions when he visits the industrial centres of the East, and especially noticeable is the marked contrast between the Empire State of the East and the Empire State of the South. Customs, habits, and particularly working class conditions, are so much different that even a casual observer is struck by what he sees.

Being a reader of the capitalist press, I was prepared to discount and discredit any statement it might make as to a general resumption of industry in the manufacturing towns along the railroads over which I came, as a Texas delegate, to the National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party in New York City. Prosperity by resolution was somewhat new to me, and I was curious to see what effect it had upon the condition of trade in general. I did see. The lifeless machinery, the smokeless stacks, and the idle wealth producers told the story, just as the press patent medicine testimonial certifying Mrs. Jones' return to romping, robust health often appears next to "pure reading matter" in a proximate column containing her obituary notice. Under normal conditions of wealth exploitation machinery would be whirling at top speed, stacks belching forth clouds of smoke, and the worker wouldn't have time to eat and sleep while he was turning out surplus value for the boss.

I found that in the main my views of the East, obtained by written and printed descriptions, pictures, photos and conversations with former residents of that section, were correct, and that the universal exploitation of the proletariat differed only in degree, due to the progress of industrial evolution. Two types New York City and Texas have in common: the "Indians" of Harlem River, the Bowery braves, who start a fight on the Third Avenue "L" on Saturday nights, and the "Indians" of West Texas, the cowmen and cow-punchers of that region, who ride into El Paso on the T. P. trains, with feet encased in long boots, spurs attached, sticking out of every passenger car window; a bottle of rot-gut in one hand and a Colt's .44 in the other, breathing booze and besoms of destruction. Two notches on their guns make them eligible to a job on the El Paso police force, or a commission in the Texas Rangers. They are nourished in an atmosphere of bigotry, brutality and ignorance, and are the semi-barbaric species so characteristic of the slum and partially developed States. Working class life is the cheapest commodity in Texas, where every man carries a "gun," and where imaginary insults are wiped out in blood. Stealing a door mat is a crime against humanity, while murder is dignified into heroism and self-defense. Murders in El Paso will average one per week in that town of 45,000 people, while assaults and suicides are too common to get more than a five-line notice in the local press.

There are counties in Texas that have never felt plow. It is a great bourgeois State, one that rolls up a big raw hide Democratic majority for a yellow dog ticket, a State whose resources have been barely scratched and whose prejudices can not be overlooked. Its industries, developed by Eastern capitalists, have the earmarks of child labor, peonage and convict exploitation, and the worker is in some sections virtually outlawed.

The daily sessions of the S. L. P. convention, at Arlington Hall, New York, were busy demonstrations of workers who knew what they came for and were bent on disposing of the work as quickly as possible. Committee work was expeditiously handled. Every vital ques-

tion was threshed out in open convention, and there were no soreheads. The only discordant note was uttered by O'Neill, of Rhode Island, who accused De Leon of lack of tact as Editor of The People. O'Neill's objections were not well taken: the delegates to a man, excepting O'Neill, endorsed the Editor's conduct. Lingenfelter, of Illinois, was the Bry-apaque orator of the sessions, while comrades Kremer, of Wisconsin, and Rupp, of Pennsylvania, were prominent on the floor.

The withdrawal of the S. L. P. endorsement from the I. W. W. leaves the party knockers who claimed it was running the I. W. W., in bad shape for a line of dope to hand the gullible.

The party does not expect to be overwhelmed with applications for membership from labor fakirs because the constitutional clause prohibiting the membership of the officers of pure and simple unions was stricken out, but it opens the door to comrades who are compelled by their forced membership in them to accept official positions and do committee work.

The request of the Unity League for the party's endorsement of Debs met a just shout of derision, and Delegate Kircher's remark struck a responsive chord in the breast of every delegate.

Passano and Outley as convention chairmen had a good grasp of parliamentary rules and rendered valued service in trying positions. Peter De Lee, of New York, was a clear, logical reasoner and a ready speaker, with a fund of information especially useful in committee work. Harry J. Schade, of California, the long distance delegate, took an active part in the labors of the convention, and had a voice in every debate. Christiansen, Brennan, Fellerman, Reimer, Reinsteins, Walsh and Marek were always prompt in making valuable suggestions, and they did much constructive work. Every delegate did his part of the duties assigned to him, and the team work of the delegates was grand.

The nomination of Comrade Preston for President, by De Leon, was made at a dramatic moment and keyed up the enthusiasm of all to a high pitch. His unanimous endorsement showed the solidarity of the delegates. The nomination of Munro for Vice-President was a fitting compliment to a stalwart comrade who is always on the firing line, and the unanimous approval of the convention showed their appreciation of that fact. My nomination for the office was not of my choosing, because I had stated that I should be unable to take active part in the campaign.

The reception to the delegates at Arlington Hall, following the close of the convention, was a pleasing social affair, and I had the gratification of meeting a number of members with whose names I had become familiar in the columns of The People.

The Cooper Union ratification meeting on the night of July 6th was an inspiring occasion and the crowd an extremely sympathetic one. Although the night was hot in the superlative degree, very few left the hall until the conclusion of the meeting. Levine, De Leon, Kircher and Hunter were all good. The grilling the S. P. received at De Leon's hands caused some squirming, and the medicine was taken with many grimaces by some of that element who were in attendance. The crowd and collection were large, and the campaign was auspiciously launched amid the howls of a scalded capitalist press and their echoes in the S. P., who act as resonators for any big noise directed against the S. L. P. Long life to the S. L. P. Its mission will never be ended until capitalism is overthrown.

THE TANANA MINING DISTRICT

AWFUL CONDITIONS PREVAILING THERE — A MONEY AND DEATH TRAP.

By Fred Smith, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Having been sent to the Tanana mining districts by the Mine Owners' Association, I feel it my duty to make the facts known as to the situation in the Tanana district.

The representations made are a fraud from beginning to end, and criminal. In the following I will clearly and unbiasedly and fairly state all the facts as I found them.

I shall treat these under three heads: first, the kind of work that is done; secondly, the pay compared with the pay in the States, and, thirdly, the game of swindle that is carried on in taking money from men coming here to work.

The work consists of picking, shoveling and wheeling the dirt at depths of from 80 to 200 feet under ground. But in order to understand the method of mining, I must describe the condition of the pay streak. The pay streak is always from 80 to 300 feet under the ground. The ground is composed of gravel with big rocks in it. It is frozen to 400 and 500 feet down.

A straight shaft is dug down till it reaches the pay streak. This shaft runs a bucket with a capacity of six wheelbarrows of dirt. From the shaft are drifted or driven tunnels to the right and left, as high as the pay streak is thick, to "get a good face on her." When the tunnels are driven as wide as the vein is, say 200 feet on each side of the shaft, in some cases longer, then work can begin.

Now, the face or pay streak is frozen, and must be thawed out. For this purpose steam is forced into the "face" to soften it up. The thawing creates a mud, like thin oatmeal, and it runs onto the floor of the tunnel. The escaping steam makes the place very hot, but near the shaft where the contents of the wheelbarrow are dumped into the bucket, it is very cold. These two extreme conditions, hot and cold, render one liable to "catching cold" and contracting pneumonia. Besides, there is much decayed vegetable matter around, which makes the air smell foul.

The tunnel is not the same height at all points; it varies with the height of the streak. This is sometimes only 2 feet above the floor. In such instances you lie in the pordige on your stomach and pick and rake the ore out.

The steam constantly causes the ground above your head to give way and the thin mud runs down your back, shoulders, etc. Rocks as big as your head come down upon you.

The speed at which the men are driven makes the work harder. In fact, it was because of the terrific pace that the strike ensued. Twice as much work as in the States is required for one day's toil. And the work is of such nature that it quickly uses up men. Not many can stand the strain. The frozen ground makes it difficult to dig. You bring the shovel to your knee, press with hands and knees and throw the whole strength of your body to bear before you can get half a shovelful. Only the very strongest men can do this, and they are "all in" when the day is over. They have to lay off every three or four days and rest up. When you lay off you have to pay \$3 board a day. The men must lay off because there is no stretching of their back or resting up while working, for as soon as they lack a shovelful or are a little behind, the boss tells them to go on top and get their time in the office.

Then the boss employs what is called a pusher, that is, he finds one of the best men in the country, a "sour dough," a man that has a reputation of doing three men's work in a day. This is a man that is much stronger than the average man. He receives a half dollar more a day, and is put in the lead, and the rest have to follow. God help those who cannot.

Imagine yourself working in those mines under those conditions, picking, shoveling, wheeling, walking, running in mud half a foot deep, hitting your head on the ceiling, and mud and slime dropping on you all the time. This is the condition as it exists. Every workingman should carefully consider this before going to Fairbanks.

The mine owners and operators pay wages at the rate of \$4 and \$5 per day. This may look like "big" wages in the States, but a little consideration of the prices of living will remove all such ideas.

A miner up here must wear heavy boots and heavy clothing because of the cold being greater than down in Seattle. A common suit of cloth which costs \$15 or \$20 in the States sells here for \$50 or \$60. Common sheep shoes which can be purchased for from \$1.50 to \$2 in the States cost \$4 to \$5 here. Rubber shoes cost \$4 to \$5 a pair; the better quality cost from \$8 to \$15. Winter here lasts nine months and the temperature ranges from 50 to 70 degrees

below zero; so one can imagine what clothes a man must have.

In the summer time it rains almost continuously, and the men that are sluicing must wear rubber coats, hats and boots. These also are high priced.

The smallest money denomination is a 25-cent piece. I needed to do some mending on my clothes. I bought a small package of needles, one spool of thread, and six buttons. This cost me one dollar. A small glass of beer costs 25 cents; the latest magazines cost \$1. On a 40 mile railroad here the fare is 25 cents a mile. A meal which costs 15 cents in the States is sold at 50 cents in Fairbanks; on the Creek \$1 and on the trail \$2.

A bottle of ink costs 25 cents; a cup of coffee and three rolls, 25 cents in Fairbanks, and 50 cents on the creek; a 50-pound sack of flour \$5; a very small orange 35 cents, and a 1-pound loaf of bread 25 cents.

The bosses have a system whereby they plunge a miner into debt to themselves and in that way keep him in their toils. When several of us arrived from San Francisco, we were kept on the waiting list. Our money had given out because of the \$2 meals on the trail. But the bosses said they would board us at \$3 per day and give us credit meanwhile. When I started to work I found I was \$60 in debt.

The following will show how the men coming here are swindled. It cost me \$5 at the employment agency. There I was informed that the trail price had been raised from \$35 to \$40. The steamboat ticket is \$25. Three days lay over at Valdez at \$3 per day makes the total \$75. I was compelled to spend \$50 extra in meals because the company did not fulfil its contract, and when I finally started work with \$60 in debt my expenses were \$185. That is how the money trap works.

SOUTH CAROLINA MILLS TO CLOSE.

Spartanburg, S. C., August 6.—Practically all the large cotton mills in this section will close Aug. 8 for two weeks, some of them for a longer period. The mills that will close down are Tuscapad, Enoree, Pacolet, Spartan Mills, Arkwright and Whitney, of this county, and Clinton and Watts Mills. The Pacolet Mills will close for an indefinite period. To keep their employees from leaving the town after new jobs, they will pay the operatives half time and give them free house rents, while operation is suspended. The other mills will furnish houses rent free. The closing down of the mills Aug. 8 will be the second time this summer the mills have shut down. As a result of the shutdown, more than 300,000 spindles in this county will be idle.

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Henry Holt & Co. are rendering a valuable service to sound and general education. They have recently issued a new edition of Louis H. Morgan's great ethnologic work, *Ancient Society*, of which they were also the first publishers.

Morgan's work furnishes the ethnologic basis to the sociologic superstructure raised by Marx and Engels.

While the work needs close study most of it is easy reading. The student will read, and re-read, and find, each time, fresh facts not noticed before, and the opening of wider vistas not discovered at previous readings.

These readers who have less time at their disposal may not be able to profit by the work to its full extent, but even one reading will store their minds with valuable knowledge and broaden their horizon so as to enable them to grasp the meaning of events now going on better than they could otherwise do.

The previous editions of the work were expensive, four dollars a volume being almost prohibitive, but the increased call for the work has compelled this latest stereotyped edition and has justified the firm in setting out the work at \$1.50, placing the book within the reach of all. The Labor News is prepared to furnish the work at the publisher's price of \$1.50.

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CAMPAIGN THOUGHTS

WHAT TICKETS NOT TO VOTE, AND WHAT TICKET TO VOTE.

By R.—, Medford, Mass.

According to the Constitution, the people are empowered once every four years to choose from the body politic some of their number, who for a certain time shall conduct their affairs, supposedly for the benefit of all. But the fact is that the said body politic is composed of elements entirely antagonistic to each other.

These elements can for matters of simplification be boiled down to two—the exploited and the exploiting—and despite many statements to the contrary, these two forces are and must under existing conditions remain wholly antagonistic. Even Taft, the Republican candidate for President, in his speech of acceptance, recognizes this when he says:

"The interests of the employer and the employee never differ except when it comes to a division of the joint profit of labor and capital into dividends and wages. This must be a constant source of periodical discussion between the employer and the employee, as indeed are the other terms of the employment."

I have just mentioned that the different elements in the body politic could be boiled down to two, but for the purposes of the present discussion it will be necessary to state that the employing class are also divided somewhat on the question of the advancement of their several interests. They are divided into two camps—the large and small capitalist. The former is principally represented in the Republican party and the latter in the Democratic party and the so-called Independence League. Does it really make any difference to workingmen whether the man by whom they are exploited has \$1,000,000, or only half or quarter that amount? They certainly have nothing in common with any party of capitalism, no matter what name it takes.

But what about the Independence League, of which Mr. Hearst is father, mother and sponsor? Speaking on labor Hearst said: "In this country labor is universal and is universally honored and appreciated. In this country there is no working class, but every man worthy of the name is a workman. . . . There is no reason for hostility between employer and employee, between capitalist and wage-earner." And in speaking of the rich he said: "The riches they amass and call their own are seldom spent in extravagance and luxury upon themselves, but are put back into new industries, to produce more wealth and give employment to more men." This is part of a speech delivered in Jamestown on Labor Day, Sept. 2nd, 1907, and published in the Boston American Sept. 3, 1907. Mr. Gompers also spoke, but he said Mr. Hearst covered all the points in the case so well that he hardly left him anything to say. Two great pillars for the workingmen to cling to! I wonder why Gompers didn't wait for the Independence League convention to present his grievances.

From these men and these parties turn to the nomination of Preston by the Socialist Labor Party, which act has called forth the denunciation of the whole capitalist press; and, strange to say, has also called forth complimentary remarks from organs and members of the Socialist party. From unprejudiced reports of the actions of the nominee of the Socialist Labor Party, Martin Preston, took away a human life in order to save his own. Self-preservation is accorded first place in the laws of nature, though the jury and the capitalist press called

it murder. But then that is not the first time that terms have been misapplied in order to serve the parties using them. But I consider it a compliment to the class-consciousness of the S. L. P. convention to have made the opposing forces howl in such unison. And if there was any doubt previously in the minds of the working class as to who should be their candidate, the action of the capitalist press has left them no other choice but the candidate of the party who called forth such calumny from the common enemy.

Then there is the ridiculous side to the capitalist howl, as instance the scornful comments the Dayton Herald makes to "an Eastern grocery driver or the Western convict," and another refers to a "common shoemaker" being called upon to carry the banner of the S. L. P. I would respectfully invite all such to read a little history before they attempt to point the finger of scorn at the common workman for presuming to guide the destinies of nations. They will find in Buckle's "History of Civilization in England," whose authority will not be disputed, the following in Vol. I, p. 446:

"To attempt to trace the English Rebellion to personal or temporary causes is futile. The truth is the rebellion was an outbreak of the democratic spirit. Joyce, who carried off the king, had been recently a common working tailor. Colonel Pride, who purged the House of Commons of malignants, was a drayman. Cromwell himself was a brewer. Colonel Jones was a servant to a private gentleman. Okey, a stoker in an Islington brewery, became a colonel. Colonel Goffe was an apprentice to a dray-salter. Major-General Whatley was apprentice to a draper; Skippon, who had received no education, commander of the London militia; Berkstead was a pedlar, Salway was apprentice to a grocer. Such were the leaders of the English Rebellion."

The present occasion is also an outbreak of the democratic spirit. It is nothing more nor less than this: Shall the workers be slaves, or shall they be free? Are they willing that the chains which bind them shall be doubly forged for their posterity?

The interests of the dominant parties and those of the workman are divided by an unbridgeable chasm. What is the worker to do? Well, the Socialist Labor Party believes and reiterates by voice and pen that he who toils should reap the reward thereof. Anything extraordinary in that? Anything in this to break up the family, the home, and a lot more bugaboos set up by capitalist henchmen in order that they may continue in undisturbed possession of their ill-gotten plunder.

It would be presumption on my part to try to explain the loftiness and grandeur of the principles of Socialism. But those who would learn these principles would do well to read the following books in the order named:

What Means This Strike?
Reform or Revolution.
Socialism, by McClure.
The Working Class.
The Capitalist Class.
The Class Struggle.
The Socialist Republic.

Any working man or woman who will read over these 5-cent pamphlets as carefully as they would read the Thaw or Nan Patterson trials, or the scandals of the Goulds or the Vanderbilts, or the exploits of "Princess Alice"—must be convinced of the correctness of the Socialist position.

SECTION CALENDAR.

Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements. The charge will be five dollars a year for five lines.

Section San Francisco, Cal., S. L. P. Headquarters, Hungarian Socialist Federation, Letonian Socialist Labor Federation, 883 McAllister street.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading rooms at 409 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Wednesday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets every alternate Sunday at 350 Ontario street (Ger. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 3 P. M.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O., S. L. P., at 1414 Race street. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters 815 Hamilton street.

Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer street, room 8. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P.—John Hossack, Secretary, 22 Fulton Ave., Jersey City; Fred Gerold, Financial Secretary, 102 Waverly St., Jersey City, N. J.

Chicago, Illinois.—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party, meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 2 p. m. sharp, at Friedmann's Hall, S. E. corner Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women are cordially invited.

Section Seattle, S. L. P., headquarters, free reading room and lecture hall, No. 2000 Second avenue. P. O. address, Box 1040.

Section Salt Lake, Utah, meets every Wednesday, 8 p. m., Rooms 4 and 5, Galena Block, 69 East 2nd St. Free Reading Room. Weekly People readers invited.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Otto Olson, 310 7th ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn.

Section St. Paul, Minn., S. L. P., holds a business meeting every second and fourth Sunday in the month at 10 a. m. at Federation Hall, cor. 3rd and Wabash streets.

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Daily People, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year \$3.50
Arbetaren (Swedish Weekly) 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year 1.50
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Socialistische Arbeiter Zeitung (German Weekly), 310 Champlain ave., Cleveland, O., per year 1.00
Nepakarat (Hungarian Semi-weekly), 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year 2.00
Ragione Nuova (Italian Monthly), 206 Atwells ave., Providence, R. I., per year25

He who comes in contact with workmen reading either of these languages should not fail to call attention to these papers and endeavor to secure subscriptions. Sample copies will be sent upon request. Address each paper as per address given above, and not as often the case to the Labor News.

Paul Augustine, National Secretary, 28 City Hall Place, New York.

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KUHN ON THE CONVENTION

FORMER NATIONAL SECRETARY'S RALLYING SPEECH TO PRESTON'S STANDARD.

[Most of the time the recent S. L. P. National Convention was going on I was busy holding my job, but I had opportunity to drop in two or three times, and, finding the debate interesting and instructive, I took a few notes on these occasions.—Steno.]

When the work of the Convention had been completed by the nomination of Preston and Munro, and just as the motion to adjourn was expected, Delegate Rupp of Pennsylvania arose and moved that the floor be given to former National Secretary Kuhn. The motion was greeted with applause, and Kuhn was called for from all parts of the hall, whereupon he responded in the following:

Chairman and delegates to the S. L. P. Convention:—The comrade Pennsylvania who dragged me to make a speech did not do me a great favor, because I am not accustomed to speaking, in the first place, and I am not hankering for it, never having been called upon, a remarks will not be out of place. It has been a pleasure to me to witness the scene that went on a little while ago when comrade Preston was named for the office of President by the S. L. P., because that meant a demonstration; it meant a challenge thrown into the teeth of the capitalist class; it meant to the capitalist class an intimation of what the enlightened working class some day will do, and that lesson will go home. (Applause.) I have not a doubt of it that through-

out the length and breadth of the land, every capitalist sheet will set up a howl of rage against the action of this convention. I hope so at least. It is meant that way. (Applause.)

"It is a demonstration against capitalist justice. It is a demonstration against that growing spirit of the capitalist class which we see manifested on all sides to ride rough-shod over the rising working class. The Haywood incident was the first, and a very significant incident it was. They tried that bluff with Haywood. On a smaller scale they tried it with Preston—and each time they do try it the answer on the part of the working class should be swift and conclusive. (Applause.) It should be brought home to those in power, to those who misuse that power—that the working class is ever on the alert, that the vanguard of that working class fully realizes what their actions mean and is ready to resent it. (Long applause.)

"As to the rest of the work of this Convention, I feel well-pleased indeed. In view of the general situation in the labor movement, a number of actions that have been taken by this Convention seem to me important and appropriate, and I dare say this Convention, after it adjourns, will leave the S. L. P. in an excellent position among the working class, that the S. L. P. members can go among that class and propagate its principles, and let us all hope they will do so. I shall not make a long speech, but shall conclude right here and now." (Applause.)

WILL PROSPERITY BOOSTERS ANSWER?

SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS PUT TO THE NEW YORK LEATHER BELTING COMPANY, WHO ARE TRYING TO STUFF WORKINGMEN.

From the New Haven Union, July 28.]

Other concerns in New York and elsewhere have received the letter of the Belting Co. published in The Yesterday, and which is interesting as a measure coercive to workingmen. Below will be found what one concern in New York has to say about this desperate campaign work of Republicans to gain votes for Taft.

Striking questions are asked in this reply, questions that will not only interest workingmen who have been cut of employment but Republican leaders who are resorting to such despicable and dishonorable methods to bolster up the candidacies of Taft and Sherman and all that they represent.

The letter is as follows:
Austin Engine Co., Second avenue and Eighth street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
July 25th, 1908.
New York Leather Belting Co.,
51 Beekman St., New York.

Gentlemen:
We have yours of July 22nd offering us copies of cards posted in your factories, which you say read as follows:

"Believing that the election of Taft and Sherman means a safe and progressive business administration the day following their election we shall start this plant on 'Full time and keep going.'"

Permit us to say we do not understand. Why have you stopped your factories? Why is the "full time and keep going" plan not now in operation? Why has there been any shutting down by you and the other members of the National Association of Manufacturers, the American Hardware Manufacturers' Association, and the numerous other similar associations to which you say you belong? Did you not assure us that McKinley would insure a "full dinner pail" to all who desire to work? Was not this assurance renewed when your several bodies endorsed Roosevelt and Fairbanks? Then what has emptied the inner pail of millions of men who are willing to work? What more reliance can be placed on this assurance than on the others? If you were false prophets before how do we know you will not be again?

But why the closed factories; why the idle mills; why the unused freight cars? Why the maintenance of high prices in the face of falling demand? Where the "abounding," "marvelous," "unparalleled," "wonderful" prosperity? Haven't we had them uninterruptedly for 12 years? Haven't the Republicans made the laws, State as well as national, and haven't they been charged with their administration? Then what is the matter? If the laws are defective, why haven't they been altered? If defective now, were they not equally defective eight and four years ago when you assured us "all is well," and, "leave well enough alone?"

Why the depression, we ask? Haven't we had seven years of Roosevelt, who, according to Republican orators, and assistant Republican, as well as Repub-

lican newspapers, is the greatest, wisest, and best President the country has ever had? Haven't we had 12 years of "stand patism," with Hanna, Aldrich and Cannon, sitting on the brakes to prevent the enactment of legislation not desired by the gentlemen who are so conspicuous in their support of Taft and Sherman—Morgan, Rockefeller, Carnegie, Hariman, Schiff?

Where is the "abounding" prosperity? Wealth has certainly increased enormously, or at least prices have been boosted to a point that ought to satisfy the most avaricious. The fortunes of the few have become gigantic, bounded out of sight. Morgan, we are told, has three hundred millions or so. Carnegie as much, while Rockefeller is credited with a billion, a few thousand others have from one to a hundred millions each. These seem to have had their "Full time and keep going" cards in operation, while they are generally credited with having in October-November last gathered in nearly everything in a large way in the shape of banks, trust companies, industrials and rails which had so far escaped them. In fact, the bulk of the people have been set a lively pace to pay the increasing prices for the necessities of life these men control.

But what has happened to the masses whom you and other boosters of McKinley and Roosevelt assured were to have a share in prosperity? With a total estimated wealth of some one hundred and ten billions the per capita tables work out all right, there should be enough to go around, for that's equal to about \$7,000 per family. But who has it? How many of the millions of toilers have a tenth of that sum free and clear? How comes it that the great bulk of the people are shy their proportion of this enormous wealth? Has the average farmer, mechanic, salesman, clerk, teacher, or laborer, squandered their proportion in riotous living? Did

they spend it for automobiles, steam yachts, or even for diamonds? If not, what has become of it? Why haven't they got it, how did it get away from them? What has been the subtle, unseen, but apparently all-powerful force that has taken it from them? Why have matters become so alarming that the so-called effete countries of Europe have felt impelled to take official cognizance of the deplorable conditions in which many of our toilers are compelled to live. The Italian government (as a result of the shocking reports that reached it) sent a commission to investigate. Most revolting conditions were shown to exist. Whole families were found crowded into one and two-room apartments, while not only the women, but little children not much more than babies, were found working in filthy, unhygienic quarters, helping to eke out a scanty living for the family. Overcrowding was shown to be the rule not the exception. In one case seven adults and seven children were found living (!) in a dark, middle room and a large bare, rear room.

The daily press also tells us, that since October thousands of entire families have been without work, as a result they have used up their savings, not their proportion—\$7,000, as above—but a paltry \$50 or so, all they had been able to accumulate during these boasted years of "wonderful" prosperity. The president of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, R. F. Cutting, says: "I cannot remember such a condition existing before. Not even in 1893 and 1894 did the depression persist so long!" While according to Senator Foraker on July 1, "22,000 skilled workers are out of employment here in Cincinnati." Presumably the unskilled were numerous still. These illustrations of "unparalleled" prosperity have been duplicated all over the country, no section has escaped the blight. There has been a regular exodus of those who could not find employment, a half million more having emigrated to Europe than have immigrated therefrom.

Why the depression, why the blight? This "marvelous" prosperity seems to have been wonderfully efficacious in keeping the toilers poor. This "unparalleled" prosperity seems to have been monopolized by a few, they have gone on piling up millions, but the larders of the workers it now seems had accumulated nothing, so that they face starvation as the reward for their part in producing "abounding" prosperity. The bottom has dropped out of their "full dinner pail."

Finally, firmly believing in the fundamental democracy of American institutions, we have no more right to dictate how they should vote, than they have to coerce us.

Yours truly,
Austin Engine Company,
(Signed) By Robert Baker, Pres.

WORKERS HEAR SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY CAMPAIGN.

At an open-air campaign meeting, held last Monday evening by the Socialist Labor Party at 86th street and Third avenue, forty signatures were secured on the petition lists, twenty-one pamphlets were sold, and about five hundred leaflets were distributed, and of these only one was found cast away. Hunter was the main speaker, and both his ability and their interest in the solution of the problems of the day held the attention of those assembled till about midnight. It was an appreciative audience which it will be justice to approach again. A young man humorously described the methods of craft unionism, and another evidently in earnest but ignorant young man cracked the joke of the evening when he said that in this country there is work for all those who want it. The signs, not only of prosperity but of decent comfort, were not evident upon him. The reform parties and the Socialist party under the leadership of Debs, "the connecting link between God and man," were paid their respects by Hunter's lash, and if silence is to mean assent, some stars of the S. P. who were present agreed with the remarks of which their party was the object.

George Hurt, a lessee, saw a warden at one of his Negro camps, order a notorious Negro who had killed several men to bring a mutinous convict into the stockade. In the fight the latter was killed, the former burying his pick in the man's lung. He mentioned two other cases of convicts having been killed by convicts at his camps.

George Mayner, former warden, said a Negro had been whipped at the Chattanooga brick camp because his shackles dropped off when the swelling over which they had been forged went down. At the same place, he declared, he saw Warden Casey beat a crazy Negro so severely that he died.

This string of horrible atrocities might be extended almost indefinitely. Warden after warden went on the stand, and admitted that he received from \$10 to \$100 a month from the lessee at whose camp he was stationed as an employe of the State, which pays them from \$25 to \$75 a month. Many of them received this pay after the prison commission's order was issued prohibiting the practice. Physicians were likewise in the pay of the lessees as well as the State.

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GEORGIA'S DISGRACE

(Continued from page 1.)

to tell members of the legislative committee of the accident.

At Stanley's camp twelve convicts protested to the visiting committee against the daily beating of a small Negro boy. Reports made to the prison commission showed only two whippings in three months.

At the camps of the Muscogee Brick Company and the Royster Guano Company, members of the Legislature found convicts wearing anklets with spikes three inches long designed to trip them up if they attempted to run.

At the Floyd County road camp convicts were compelled to eat their meals chained to their bunks; Sundays they remained so chained during the entire day.

At the Coweta road camp a Negro dying with consumption was found lying on the floor in the room where stock food is kept. It was in November, and he was without sufficient cover and practically without medical attention.

Lovett Byers, another Negro, was overcome by the heat in the "clamps." His subsequent death was attributed to consumption.

At the camp of Pinson and Allen, Nicolsonville, quantities of dirt were found in the provisions; the living quarters were exposed to the weather; the convicts were weak and emaciated.

J. A. Cochran, white, sentenced for life for whitecapping, afterwards pardoned, told of the whipping of a Negro convict at the State farm. The Negro protested he was too sick to work; he was given twenty-five lashes and sent to the field to pick cotton; he fell exhausted in the cotton rows. The Negro had to be carried from the field. The next day he was dead.

Cochran and C. D. Wortham, the latter a former employee of the State at the camp of the Chattahoochee Brick Company, told of the whipping to death of a convict named Peter Harris. Harris couldn't stand the heat in the brick "clamps," where it was said to be so fierce that Warden J. T. Casey hesitated to enter for fear it would cause the discharge of his pistol. Harris was whipped in the morning and again in the afternoon for failure to perform his tasks. The next day Cochran saw his body in the cooling vat. The coroner's jury accepted the testimony that he died from "drinking too much water."

Cochran said it was the daily duty of each convict to handle 100,000 brick. When he went there he weighed 215 pounds; in two months he had fallen to 164.

Wortham testified there were five to eight whippings daily at the Chattahoochee Brick Company camp. "It was as common to hear a Negro holler there as to hear a pig squeal in the country," he said.

J. S. Cochran, a brother of the foregoing, and sentenced for the same whitecapping offense, said he had often seen Warden Mitchell at the Durham Coal and Coke Company's camp, line up thirty to forty men for "shortage and slate," that is, failure to get out the required quantity of coal, or having too much slate in it. It took four men one hour to administer the whippings with a strap weighing from three to five pounds.

R. A. Keith, who had spent part of his term at the same camp, did clerical work. Under instructions, he said he reported only one-tenth of the whippings to the prison commission. He knew the rules were regularly violated, but said nothing, and when he was pardoned sued the lessees at this camp for cruel treatment, and won a verdict of \$2,000.

J. W. Roberts, a former warden at the State farm, told of the severe whipping of a white woman, Mamie De Cris. She was afterward compelled to work in the fields picking cotton or hoeing, the same as the men.

George Hurt, a lessee, saw a warden at one of his Negro camps, order a notorious Negro who had killed several men to bring a mutinous convict into the stockade. In the fight the latter was killed, the former burying his pick in the man's lung. He mentioned two other cases of convicts having been killed by convicts at his camps.

George Mayner, former warden, said a Negro had been whipped at the Chattanooga brick camp because his shackles dropped off when the swelling over which they had been forged went down. At the same place, he declared, he saw Warden Casey beat a crazy Negro so severely that he died.

This string of horrible atrocities might be extended almost indefinitely. Warden after warden went on the stand, and admitted that he received from \$10 to \$100 a month from the lessee at whose camp he was stationed as an employe of the State, which pays them from \$25 to \$75 a month. Many of them received this pay after the prison commission's order was issued prohibiting the practice. Physicians were likewise in the pay of the lessees as well as the State.

A TRIP TO THE ANTIPODES.

The Class Line Drawn on Board Ship and Even to the Ends of the Earth.

By R. Mackenzie, Sydney, Australia.

On attempting to leave American soil to seek a master under the Southern Cross, we were thrice doomed to disappointment, as the first ship stuck in the mud in Oakland, which forced us to abandon our trip to New Zealand and ship up the coast for British Columbia to ship for Australia. The accommodation on the coast steamer was outrageous, the producers of wealth having an abominable place to bunk and eat, which reminded the writer most forcibly of the necessity of overthrowing the hellish capitalist system.

The steerage was overcrowded, and getting into conversation with many of the passengers I found that many were returning to Australia, while others were seeking a master in Seattle, running around from city to city with the hope that somewhere a master, a good boss, was waiting with a good job at good wages—vain hopes which will not be fulfilled during the present crisis. The Australian steamer breaking down in Victoria, B. C., we began to think we were doomed to remain on the American continent, reminding us somewhat forcibly of the quotation from Burns: "The best laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft a-gley."

The class lines were drawn tight on this ship, the deck being divided off, and at night there would be a line-up along the rail, the inevitable topic being Unionism and Socialism; and as the majority of the steerage passengers were English, Scotch and Irish, there were as many conflicting dialects as there were ideas on the theory of Socialism.

The second class contained many cockroach business men and aristocrats of labor, strong apologists of the capitalist system, and the arguments at times waxed fast and furious. Having a goodly supply of Labor News leaflets on hand, we butted in to good advantage, and as each debater wanted something in black and white to support his ideas, the leaflets were eagerly accepted. On one point only could these opponents find common ground—I. e., that the trades unions of America were corrupt and controlled by fakirs.

Awaiting the arrival of the quarantine inspector at Honolulu, we caught sharks for pastime, the teeth being handed round as souvenirs. The backbone is the perquisite of the crew, and while all seemed to agree that the Chinaman was a menace to the white man and should not be allowed into the competition with the white races for jobs, a mental somersault was performed in this case, as Chinamen in Honolulu pay \$5 for a shark's backbone. The Chink then appeared to them as a good fellow, when he was willing to pay for such a thing.

The monotony of steerage diet necessitating a change, we entered a grocer's store and casually asked the population of Honolulu; and like a flash came the answer, "60,000 Japanese," showing plainly that the cockroach business man is being driven to the wall by this "Backward Race," and that the magnitude of his opponent is evidently ever on his mind. With an oily smile of satisfaction he volunteered the information that no more could enter, and any that left could not return. Poor old Cockroach, how unhappy is thy lot!

Remembering my early days in a Presbyterian Sunday school, when periodical collections had been taken up to educate the savages in the Fiji Islands, and getting into conversation with a communicative native, I asked him if he had got any of the money that I had sent out when a kid. He grinned all over as he informed me that they got no money; the Church kept it all, and they had to work chopping wood and such like jobs in exchange for their schooling.

Coming to Brisbane, we struck winter weather, the rain preventing me from looking up my old S. L. P. and I. W. W. comrade, Ed. Lambie, who, however, arrived safely from Stuttgart and is at present in Brisbane. Arriving in Sydney, I made the early acquaintance of comrades Moroney and Batho, respectively National Secretary and Editor of the Sydney "People."

The Australian S. L. P. has a very militant organization, and the I. W. W. Club has quite a big membership and doing good work agitating for Industrial Unionism.

To accord with Post Office regulations, this paper must be stopped the instant a subscription runs out. To avoid delay in getting your Weekly People, watch the number on your wrapper and renew in advance.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party. It prints nothing but sound Socialist literature.

THE SOCIAL INSTINCT IN MAN

IS MORE DEEPLY ROOTED THAN THE FEELING OF SELF-REGARD.

Is it true that the wicked alone are unsuccessful, that poverty-land is filled only by those who are morally depraved, and that our rulers, our lords spiritual and temporal, our commons, our municipal councillors, our "smart" society, our professional and well-to-do middle classes only are righteous? The question needs only to be stated; it carries its own refutation.

Setting aside law-made crime, I know that justice, right, truth, honor and honesty are as much a part of the poor—the despised and rejected—as of any of the classes above named; and I believe more. I have a belief that it is, to a great extent, because they are not self-seekers, but because they have more care and sympathy for others than is consistent with an individualistic age, that they have not been successful in life. Altruism is a handicap and self-seeking an advantage in the individual struggle.

Under our present unorganized "civilization," with its rent and interest and dividends, with its land, capital and labor shibboleth, the "have-nots" must necessarily be many and the "haves" few. Vast riches and poverty go hand in hand; the one means the other. In an age of the glorification of the self-made man, when he and his methods are held up by preachers and teachers for our copy, when self-advancement even at the expense of others is made a cardinal virtue, it is the man who by his nature cannot learn the art who descends in the social scale.

Where many must fail, it is the egoist who rises—at least relatively—and the altruist who descends. A high development of the finer social instincts handicaps one in the struggle and makes for poverty. The slum dwellers are as essentially (congenitally) moral as the successful. They are the beaten in the struggle, for one reason, because of the weakness of their self-regarding instinct. It is always lawful to learn from the enemy, and we shall allow Ernst Haeckel to instruct us.

"Modern science," he says, in his famous "Riddle," "shows that the feeling of duty rests not on an illusory 'categorical imperative' but on the solid ground of social instinct, as we find in the case of all social animals. It regards as the highest aim of all morality the re-establishment of a sound harmony between egotism and altruism, between self-love and the love of one neighbor."

And again with more point: "Man belongs to the social vertebrates, and has therefore, like all social animals, two sets of duties—firstly to himself, and secondly to the society to which he belongs. The former are the behests of self-love or egoism, the latter of love for one's fellows, or altruism. The two sets of precepts are equally just, equally natural, and equally indispensable. If a man desires to have the advantage of living in an organized community, he has to consult not only his own fortune, but also that of the society, and of the 'neighbors' who form that society. He must realize that its prosperity is his own prosperity, and that it cannot suffer without his own injury."

And here is the second of "three important theses": "The social duties which are imposed by the social structure of associated individuals and by means of which it secures its preservation, are merely higher evolutionary stages of the social instincts, which we find in all higher animals (as 'habits which have become hereditary')."

Surely Saul also is among the prophets. The order of "duties" in the second quotation is inverted by Haeckel, both in respect of their importance and, as I believe, their development. The social duties and the faculty of social oughtness or conscience was (at least very probably) "evolved" before individual conscience and is a more strongly marked specific character of humanity than the latter. This may be the explanation of the deference individuals pay to custom or fashion in social affairs. They prefer, in the words of a modern statesman, who as a youth was guilty so, to be wicked rather than singular. However irrational a social observance may be, the units follow it rather than incur the charge of singularity or eccentricity.

Darwin's own position is given in his "Descent of Man," chapter iv. In this chapter he discusses the nature and origin of the social instincts, including the moral sense, and argues that any animal, whatever, endowed with well marked social instincts, would, in the course of its evolution, acquire a moral sense or conscience which would intensify step by step with growth of intelligence. He finds the origin of the social instinct in natural selection, its germ being parental and filial affection. Communities of animals in which sympathy existed would have a greater chance of surviving against adverse circumstances than groups lacking this social binding force. "These communities," he declares, "which include the greatest number of most sympathetic members would flourish best and rear the greatest number of offspring."

And so he proceeds to consider man as a social animal. Man has inherited social instincts from his distant past. They have been preserved and strengthened in the course of the struggle, not of individual against individual, but of group against group, so that the group or tribal conscience was earliest developed. What hurt the community hurt the individual. The community must be preserved against external foes if the individual is to live and the tribe to continue to exist. Fidelity to comrades is thus developed by natural selection; for the tribe in which the spirit of comradeship, the sympathy of the individual with his fellows, is strongest, will survive against other tribes; and the action of the same law will strengthen this instinct in successive generations. For the struggle for existence of the communities does not cease. It has to contend against the inhospitality of nature, against disease, storm, drought, flood, cold; against the wild beast of the forest; against other communities; and always the tribe having the greatest number of individuals in whom the tribal conscience is most highly developed, will have the best chance, other things being equal, of survival.

The praise of his fellows, his horror of their scorn, would influence the individual to unselfish action, and in this way lead to the development of the individual conscience.

In its beginning the tribal conscience was an instinct. An act of unfidelity to his group would in the earliest manifestation produce a feeling of uneasiness, of dissatisfaction, of something being wrong, a pain; an act of fidelity the opposite emotion. It would not be a feeling to which expression could be given in words. The one course produces content, the other discontent. Added to this we should have the objective force of the approbation or disapprobation of the tribe. A sacrifice of the individual to the interests of the tribe receives the approbation of the tribal units; a self-regarding action tending to injure the tribe, their condemnation.

It closely follows on, and from this, that the self-approbation, which an individual experiences when he injures himself for the sake of his fellows, becomes a conscious approbation—he has done the right thing, or at least he has followed the right impulse, and the satisfaction he feels is a conscious one; on the other hand, he consciously feels blameworthy, he condemns himself, and is ashamed of his own conduct when his action is self-regarding, benefiting himself and injuring his tribe.

The feeling of Right and Wrong is an inherited instinct engendered during the development of man while he was yet a "lower" animal, and developed and fixed in human nature, by the struggle for existence. Hence it is that now social sympathy is an essential characteristic of man. "A man who possessed no trace of such instincts would be an unnatural monster." He would be a reversion to ancient type, and would be treated as one mentally deficient.

Thus the social instincts are of a more permanent and of a more deeply seated character than the self-regarding, and that is what was meant when I said earlier, that humanity as it is, is ready here and now for the highest Socialism we can conceive. — Darwinism and Socialism, by LAURENCE SMALL.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1908.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY
PRESIDENTIAL TICKET.

For President:

AUGUST GILLHAUS.

Engineer, New York, as Proxy for
MORRIE R. PRESTON,
Now in the Nevada State Penitentiary
for the legitimate exercise of the right
of self-defense on picket-duty, and
whom delicacy prevents from per-
sonally appearing on the ballot.

For Vice-President:

DONALD L. MUNRO,

Machinist, Virginia.

You cannot see the land, my land,
You cannot see, and yet the land is
there—

My land, my land, through murky air—
I did not say 'twas close at hand—
But—land, ho! land.

Dost hear the bells of my sweet land,
Dost hear the kine, dost hear the
marry birds?

No voice, 'tis true, no spoken words,
No tongue that thou may'st under-
stand—
Yet it is land, ho! land.

Hold firm the helm! there is the land!
Hail lusty mariners, she takes the
breeze!

And what my spirit sees it sees—
Leap, bark, as leaps the thunder-
brand—
Land, ho! land.

—T. E. BROWN.

PRESTON AS STANDARD BEARER.

In the measure that a candidate finds
reproduced against him the assaults
made against the principles of the party
whose standard bearer he is, in that
measure may the candidate be satisfied
that he is true to his colors, and the
party that nominated him feel gratified
that it made no mistake.

Preston, for whom Gillhaus bears the
standard as proxy, is making the experi-
ence that Socialism made.

Socialism has been assailed, and still
continues to be assailed, as a criminal
conspiracy against all that is sacred to
man. Socialism—the first practical move
to make possible the aspirations of all
noble souls of antiquity, the first prac-
tical groundwork presented to render
"peace on earth, good will among men"
a reality and not the evanescent hypo-
crisy-producing vision it has hitherto
been—Socialism has been and continues
to be reviled as a breeder of strife, a
threat to life. Like Socialism, Preston
is assailed with the charge of murder—
he, the man of peace, who, peacefully
engaged in the exercise of a civic right,
is murderously assaulted, and in defense
of his life slays his assailant, as any
man would slay a mad dog that rushes
at him—him the mad-dog class affects to
point the finger of scorn at!

Socialism, the only serious proposition
for the orderly regulation of man's af-
fairs with man, and, consequently, for
the abolition of war—Socialism has been
and is continued to be ranted against as
a disturber of the public peace. Like
Socialism, Preston, the Socialist Labor
Party man who strained every nerve to
bring order and civilized conditions in the
capitalist-run mining camp of Goldfield
—Preston is ranted against as a "fioter."

Socialism, the condemner of the capi-
talist iniquities heaped upon woman, and
the sole haven of refuge for the mothers,

wives and daughters of the race—Social-
ism is and has been mouthed against as
a "blaster of the family."—Like Social-
ism, Preston, who made front to a scamp
employer and maltreater of women—
upon Preston is heaped the infamous
calumny of being a "family disrupter."

The parallel could be continued indefi-
nitely.

The lot of Socialism is the lot of its
standard bearer in this campaign. Both
will beat themselves through. When
their present assailants shall have van-
ished from memory, or be remembered in
history only as hideous dreams, they will
shed their luster upon the race.

WHICH IS IT?

With Senators Foraker and Spooner
in the lead a number of prominent Re-
publicans are doing worse than insinu-
ating, they are pointedly, and, what is
more, justly charging the present in-
cumbent of the White House with
subordinating the two Houses of Con-
gress and the Judiciary to the will of
the Executive, and they are not slow
in pronouncing such procedure to be a
wilful violation of the Constitution and
an evidence that, with such an
Executive, "popular government ceases
to exist." True enough, these same
gentlemen affect to breathe more freely
in the hope that next March 4, Taft,
"a lawyer and law-abiding President,"
will fill the Executive chair.

Whether Messrs. Spooner, Foraker
& Co. actually breathe more freely in
the hope of Taft's election, or whether
they do not, they are a lot of dullards
if they are sincere; a lot of hypocrites,
if otherwise.

Granted that Taft is all they claim—
what of it? The Constitution and
"popular government" did not depend
upon the good will of a Washington,
a Jefferson, an Adams, a Lincoln, or
even a Jackson. These distinguished
men, indeed, had it in their power, as
all people filling a post of trust have,
to promote the institutions they are
elected to guard, or to injure the same,
to some extent. But nobody will say
that "popular government," even as
understood by the Spooners and the
Forakers, let alone the Constitution,
was at the mercy of the Washingtons,
the Jeffersons, etc. To believe that
Taft will act differently from Roosevelt
is to admit that the Constitution has
fallen upon evil days, and that "popu-
lar government" is hopelessly dead. No
live institution ever is dependent upon
the good will of any one man.

So that whichever way the matter
is looked upon, the Forakers and
Spooners stand in unenviable light.

Either they are sincere, and then
they are too dull to realize that the
"popular government" of which they
dream is actually dead—as dead as a
door-nail, and that veiled political
autocracy has become the reflex of
actual capitalist economic autocracy.

Or the gentlemen are well aware of
the fact, but, differently from the So-
cialist Labor Party—on whose Presi-
dential banner, typical of its principles,
the names of Gillhaus, as proxy for
Preston, and Munro are intrepidly in-
scribed—find their account in conceal-
ing their knowledge, and in worship-
ing at a shrine that is empty.

Which is it?—In either case, Down
with the pack!

SHAMING A SOCIALIST.

Among the men who are figuring
prominently in the Socialist party is
Mr. Robert Hunter. This gentleman
has written a thick book—about 400
pages long—entitled "Poverty." On
page 214 of the said work this passage
occurs:

"Immigration, therefore, means that,
by permitting free and unlimited entry,
we are stimulating the birthrate both
in this country and abroad of Italians,
Hungarians, Lithuanians, Ruthenians,
Croats, and Polish, Roumanian and
Russian Jews. This increase means
that the places of those who emigrate
to this country are filled in a genera-
tion and the misery and oppression,
which emigration is supposed to re-
lieve, continue unimproved, while in
the United States the peasantry from
other countries, degraded by foreign
oppression, are supplanting the de-
scendants of the original stock of this
country. This is the race-suicide, the
annihilation of our native stock, which
unlimited immigration forces upon us,
none the less powerfully because it is
gradually and stealthily done. The
native stock of America, possessed of
rare advantages, freed by its own ef-
forts from oppression and the miseries
of oppression, might have peopled the
United States with the seventy millions
which now inhabit it. It has not done
so for the reason that 'we cannot wel-
come an indefinite number of immi-
grants to our shores without forbidding
the existence of an indefinite number
of children of native parents who might
have been born.'"

Leaving for a later occasion the con-
sideration of some of the amazing
principles thus advanced by Mr. Hun-
ter on the great and burning question
of immigration, together with what
flows therefrom, the gentleman's gen-

eral reasoning may be boiled down to
this: "The cause of the decreasing
birth-rate of the native stock of Amer-
ica" which was "possessed of rare
advantages" and "freed by its own ef-
forts from oppression and the miseries
of oppression" is that hordes of Italians,
Polish, Russian and Roumanian Jews,
Hungarians, Irish, Germans, Swedes,
etc., flocked into the country. "This is
the view held by one who calls him-
self a Socialist; one, therefore, pre-
sumably grounded in the material facts
that ever must be the foundation for
Socialist thought."

Now let us turn to another source—
a capitalist source—no less vitriolic a
capitalist source than the New York
"Evening Post." In its issue of July
31 that paper has this to say:

"With the decreasing birth-rate of
the native-born population in the older
sections of the country, we may yet
find in these strong stocks of the Old
World a very real element in our na-
tional strength."—This is the view held
by one who repudiates Socialism, yet
feels compelled to render homage to
the Socialist method of thought of
standing upon facts and clearly dis-
tinguishing between cause and effect.

The Jingolic heels over headness of
Mr. Robert Hunter, a reputed Socialist,
stands shamed. When an anti-Social-
ist shames a Socialist, the shamed So-
cialist is a shame to Socialism.

"TURKEY" AND "CROW."

The "Brotherhood of Capital and
Labor" is a theme of peculiar illus-
tration.

Are orders plenty and the demand
brisk for a certain article, the capi-
talist sees millions just ahead of him,
and the sight has the effect of a whip
from behind that drives him on to
make hay while the sun shines. In
this effort on the part of the capitalist,
Brother Labor is the immediate suffer-
er. The experience is an everyday one
that the brighter the opportunities
seem to the capitalist, the harder he
is upon the workingman. If normally
the capitalist can make 25 per cent.
profits, a brighter outlook promising
30 per cent. whets his appetite for 40
per cent. and the prospect of getting
that drives him on to reach out for
50 per cent. Labor is the sufferer.
Out of its hide comes the increased
profit. In a score of different ways
the capitalist reduces the earnings of
his workers and adds to his own prof-
its. That's what happens when
"times are good."—The point was re-
cently illustrated by the reduction of
wages among the steel workers during
a phenomenally prosperous season for
the steel magnates.

Are orders few and straggling, and
the sales less numerous, then however
large the profits he made just before
and heaped up in bank, the capitalist
announces to his Brother Labor that
there is a business depression that
hurts him, and consequently "Labor
must take its share of the bad times."
The "share" of bad times allotted to
Labor is the whole burden. Not a
penny will the capitalist take away
from the hoard laid up when times
were good. Labor, which, under good
times, was kept with its nose to the
grindstone of poverty, now has its
nose held still closer. Its wages go
down, its jobs become less steady, its
opportunities fewer. That's what hap-
pens when "times are bad."—The point
was recently illustrated by E. P. Rip-
ley, President of the Atchison, Topeka
and Santa Fe Railroad. Mr. Ripley
announced cold-bloodedly that the
hard times would necessitate a reduc-
tion in wages, unless higher rates were
allowed.

Horace Greeley tells the story of a
Yankee and an Indian who went out
hunting. The net proceeds of their
joint efforts was a turkey and a crow.
Said the Yankee to the Indian: "Let
us divide share and share alike—you
may have the crow and I shall take
the turkey; or, if you prefer, I shall
have the turkey and you may take the
crow." Quoth the Indian: "You don't
say turkey once to me!"

The brotherhood of capitalist and
workingman is the brotherhood be-
tween the Yankee and the Indian in
the story. "Crow" ever is the share
of Bro. Labor, "Turkey" the share of
Bro. Capital. Turn it around as Bro.
Capital may, he never once says "tur-
key" to Bro. Labor—and never will.

The social system of the turkey-
taking and crow-giving capitalist sys-
tem is not mendable—it must be ended.

Mr. Joaquim Croynern, to whom the
"Evening Post" yields nearly a column
of its space to propose a plan for the
establishment of an institution to com-
bat Socialism, is of the opinion that
"a part of the first twenty years of
the life of such an institution, should
be given" etc., etc. Joaquim is of the
family that closes the barn-door after
the horse has been stolen. Before
"the first twenty years" will have
passed over the head of his institution
capitalism will be as dead as a door-
nail.

THE STAKED OX.

Statistical figures, given by Dr. John
E. White of Atlanta on the system of
leasing convicts in Georgia, and the
gentleman's proposed remedies to do
away with the evil, suggest a staked ox,
striving to free, yet winding himself
ever faster and closer to the stake, as a
fit picture of the reformer in modern
society.

From 1865 to 1899 convicts were sold
in Georgia "as one would sell cattle."
The convict was first sold wholesale by
the State; he was then retailed from
purchaser to purchaser. During this pe-
riod the State got \$7.50 a head a year
for its convicts.

The second period began with 1899 and
continues to this day. The difference
consists in the discontinuance of the
public sale like cattle, and in improved
private bargaining. The convicts are
now leased by the State at \$136 a head
—an increase of \$128.50 apiece to the
State, leaving the lessee free to sublet,
an opportunity that has given birth to a
special industry, that of leasing and
"sub-leasing" convicts, the dealer fre-
quently making as much as \$434 profit in
the operation. The consequence is that
the State of Georgia now derives a revenue
of \$200,000 from her convicts; the "tax
payers," good, moral Christians that
they are, look upon the convict "as an
asset, not as a liability; as a good for-
tune rather than a burden," seeing that
he lightens their taxes; and, finally, the
enterprising Georgian, with an eye to
"turning an honest penny," regards the
convict as an article of trade from which
profits can be drawn that "would make
Shylock sweat with shame."

Such a state of things Dr. White
justly deprecates; and, trying to put an
end to the corrupting influence of such
practices, he has looked around for a
remedy—and found it, he complacently
announces. He found, not one, he found
two remedies. Either confine the con-
victs in stockades and put them to work
at building macadam roads, or put them
to work on model State farms. In other
words, beat the devil around the stump.

The identical evils now deplored from
the leasing system would continue—the
State would receive a large, most prob-
ably a much larger, revenue from the
convicts whom she would exploit ex-
clusively, than the \$200,000 that she now
pockets through the leasing system; the
increased revenues would lighten still
more the taxes of the taxpayers; these
would look upon the convict with still
greater affection "as an asset, not as a
liability; as a good fortune rather than
a burden"; and the final result would be
an intensification of the corrupting in-
fluences now complained of. The dull
staked ox only winds himself faster
around the stake.

The criminal is the product of society.
Society, not the individual, is guilty.
Any effort, looking to the removal of
the evil effects of crime, that does not
proceed from these premises, tugs at the
wrong chord. Crime is removed only by
the removal of the material conditions
that generate it. It is these material
conditions that are the criminals.

Capitalist society, which eggs on Want
and the Fear of Want like dogs at the
heels of the people, converts the "Com-
monweal" into a den of criminals. The
most powerful "convict" the less power-
ful, and thus "convicts" become national
"assets," windfalls rather than "burdens."

Not the "reform" of the staked ox,
but the hammer blows of the Socialist
Revolution, heralded by the Socialist
Labor Party, will stand. All else is an
endless winding around the stake and a
weariness of the flesh.

A GENIAL, THOUGH UNEXPECTED,
HUMORIST.

To judge by his photograph, Mr. W.
C. Brown, Senior Vice-President of the
New York Central lines, is a cold, steel-
trap, practical man. The judgment is
wrong. He is a humorist, a genial, jovial
funny-dog of the most rollicking type.

In a recent interview held upon him
by one J. Kimberly Mumford, Mr. W.
C. Brown, tried to prove that in these
days of corporations, opportunities for
young men were twenty times more
plentiful than formerly.

"The thing [for a young man] to do,"
he said, "is to bend every energy in him
to doing to-day, as well as it can be done,
what he has to do. The man who does
that doesn't have to worry about pro-
motion. Promotion will look for him."

And again:

"A man does better to apply himself
to every day's duty as it comes along;
and as for advancement, it will come
looking for him, because there is a great
demand for competent men in high posi-
tions."

This in itself is rare humor, humor
of the sort which consists in stating sol-
emnly a thing so well known to be false
that it needs no Artemus Ward footnote
to it—"N. B.—This is a joke!"—in order
to be recognized and enjoyed.

But Mr. W. C. Brown is no slipshod
artist. Plain-as-the-nose-on-your-face
the joke is, he made doubly sure that
the point would go home. This he ac-
complished by seeing that the interview
with him appeared in the magazine

which published it, Harper's Weekly,
only some weeks after the readers of
that journal had been put in a receptive
mood for it by the following story, printed
in those same columns:

"Two young college men were indis-
trinsingly spending their summer vacation
in the testing room of a large electric
manufacturing works, where they were
able to supplement their studies at the
technical school by practical application
and experience. The July afternoons
were long, and the work at times very
slack, so in one of these intervals of half
idleness the young men determined to
turn to and give the laboratory in which
they worked a thorough cleaning. It
was at this juncture that the janitor
happened along—an old retainer whose
years of usefulness had long since passed.
Catching sight of the young men
industriously scouring the grimy win-
dows, he stopped to watch them ap-
provingly.

"That's right, boys," he exclaimed at
length, nodding his head encouragingly.
"That's the way I got my start."

The story of this old retainer, whose
"years of usefulness had long since passed,"
without having lifted him out of a
menial janitorship; the story of this old
retainer, who had "got his start" clean-
ing windows, had conscientiously cleaned
windows all his life—he must have been
conscientious and painstaking or he
would not have been "retained"—and
was now in the winter of his life still a
cleaner of windows; that story reveals
how promotion and advancement "come
looking for" the man who does his "every
day's duty as it comes along." It is the
flaring semaphore by which, lest anyone
should miss it in spite of its self-evi-
dence, Mr. W. C. Brown blazed the way
to the understanding of his little joke.

Let none say that he is not a genial,
though unexpected, humorist.

TO COMBAT SOCIALISM.

Excellent Response to Mr. Joachim
Croynern's Absurd Idea.

The Evening Post, which recently
granted a column of space to a Mr. Jo-
achim Croynern to exhibit a scheme of a
fund and institution to combat Social-
ism, is now having to print a few of the
many excellent letters called forth in
answer to Mr. Croynern's scheme. The
following two appeared in the issue of
August 5:

To the Editor of The Evening Post:

Sir: The letter of Mr. Croynern in The
Evening Post of July 29 may receive
from Socialists the attention it deserves;
but there is one comment so obvious
that it may possibly be overlooked. Mr.
Croynern advocates an "institution . . .
devoting its entire time to studying So-
cialism in all its phases and carrying on
an educational campaign against it." But
studying Socialism may make the stu-
dent a friend instead of an enemy. Free
trade, free thought, "abolition," and other
"heresies" have won adherents from
the enemy, and some of the ridiculous
parlor Socialists have doubtless come
slowly and reluctantly to their present
position. Are there not needed two in-
stitutions—one for studying to learn, the
other for studying to refute?

H. W. K.

Mount Vernon, July 30.

To the Editor of The Evening Post:

Sir: That is a good suggestion made
by Mr. Joachim Croynern in your issue of
yesterday, of a fund "to found an ed-
ucational institution, designed to combat
Socialism." It is questionable, however,
whether the useful purpose such an in-
stitution would serve is identical with
the aim of its advocate. It would ad-
vertise Socialism, undoubtedly; and pos-
sibly the unprejudiced investigators at
its head might become Socialists. Many
people who have hitherto heard only one
side of the question would learn the
truth at last. Mr. Croynern himself (I
say it reverently) might profit by con-
tact with the facts such investigators
would lay bare.

But let us hope that the scientists to
whom this sociological research is en-
trusted will not class among imperfectly
understood "facts" the assertion that
"Socialism would result in slavery of the
body, mind, and soul of man." In
examining the conditions of modern
life, they would early meet with that
species of slavery, and they would have
to trace it to its source outside of So-
cialism.

"While Socialism is now in the realm
of politics," says Mr. Croynern, "it dis-
putes the freedom of the individual to
choose his mode of government, and can-
not, therefore, be classed as a political
belief." Who asserts this freedom that
Socialism disputes? What individual
under the present regime is free "to
choose his mode of government"? I can-
not conceive any system short of an-
archy, where the individual would enjoy
freedom so great.

John Edmond Hearn.

New York, July 30.

Watch the label on your paper. It
will tell you when your subscription ex-
pires. First number indicates the month,
second, the day, third, the year.

SPARKS FROM THE ANVIL.

Mighty Clanging in Which Is Being
Hammered Out the New Industrial
State.

"Day work or piece work—which is
cheaper?"—Capitalist paper.

There you are!—the capitalist sys-
tem in a nutshell—a faithful photo of
capitalist sociology and capitalist mor-
ality.

The work of human society belongs to
the Capitalist, who pays for it out
of what he exploits from human so-
ciety. And the more he pays the less
goes into his pocket—hence the above
query.

"Day work or piece-work—which is
best for the human race?" That is the
form the query would take in the
mind of any decent person.

But no decent person would take
advantage of his fellow man's neces-
sity to rob him of his self-earned
property. As Marx says, "Capitalist
property is built on the tomb of self-
earned property."

All Courts to-day, and all Judges,
are capitalist.

Turn over this matter seriously in
your mind, and we think you will per-
ceive how impossible it should be
otherwise than that, when a case be-
tween a capitalist and wage-worker is
before the Court, the prejudices of the
Judge, his training and the very social
atmosphere in which he lives must,
even if unconsciously, bias him in
favor of one of his own class.

True Socialists do not expect justice
from a capitalist court of any kind,
and, as they are always endeavoring
to impress on the workers, as wages
are the "price" of their labor power—
their commodity, therefore as long as
they allow themselves to remain mere
merchandise they should, like all other
sellers, fix their own price (collective-
ly, of course) and insist on getting
that price, as all sellers do, face to face
with the capitalist buyer.

Does the Working Class owe the
Capitalist Class anything?—If so, how
and when was the debt contracted?

"Between the working class and the
capitalist class there is nothing in
common," the Socialist says.

What does it mean? In the cables
last week this appeared:

"Addressing the Congress of Ger-
man trades-unions at Hamburg,
Herr Carl Legien, a Socialist member
of the Reichstag, claimed that the
free unionists now totalled nearly
2,000,000 members, constituting the
largest and most united organiza-
tion in the world. That was the po-
sition, despite the continual opposi-
tion of the ruling classes and of the
Government."

Does "free unionists" mean "trade
unionists," to distinguish them from
unions of the Catholic brand the same
as they have in France? If there are
two millions of organized industrial
workers in Germany, what an army
for the I. W. W.!—and organized on
the lines of the preamble, what a force
they would be!—Sydney, Australia,
"People."

88 MONTHLY.

Grim Execution Roll of American Rail-
roads.

Pittsburg, August 4.—During the six
months ended June 30 of this year,
5,160 railroad accidents on roads all over
the country were reported to the rail-
road commission of Pennsylvania, 525
causing death.

The largest number of fatalities in
any one month, 102, occurred in March,
and the largest number of casualties,
886, are reported in February. The av-
erage number of persons killed a month
was 88, an the injured 772. Of the total
average a month of killed and injured,
642 were employees and 71 passengers.

The average number of trespassers kill-
ed a month was 52 and the injured 57.
During the entire six months 227 per-
sons were killed or injured at grade
crossings.

The highest percentage of fatalities
in connection with accidents is that of
trespassers, the report showing that
47.24 per cent. of all trespassers con-
cerned in railroad accidents suffered
death; 3.03 per cent. of the accidents
to passengers were fatal; 3.84 per cent.
of the accidents to employees were fatal;
24.67 per cent. of the accidents at grade
crossings were fatal.

TWENTY PER CENT. WAGE CUT.

New Orleans, August 6.—Commencing
next Monday, the Lane-Maginnis cotton
mills of New Orleans will be run six days
a week, instead of three, but there will
be a twenty per cent. cut in wages.



UNCLE SAM AND

BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN.—There
was a Socialist Labor Party meeting
the other day that should damn you
Socialists forever in the eyes of
workers in this country.

UNCLE SAM.—Did it fire bomb

B. J.—No; it favored the impor-
tation of pauper labor.

U. S.—You are mistaken; what
did was to denounce the anti-im-
migration howl.

B. J.—What is the difference?

U. S.—A good deal. This anti-im-
migration howl is a fraud on the peo-
ple.

B. J.—Do you call it a fraud on the
people to relieve the labor market?

U. S.—That would not be a fraud;
but

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

THIS IS THE SUPPORT NEEDED.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Section Peoria comes to the front again with 1 sub to the Daily, 24 to the Weekly People, and 5 to the Volksfreund and Arbeiter Zeitung. This is the result of another week's work. Koechlin and Schlag, as usual, were instrumental in securing the above number. The former comrade and I were together yesterday afternoon and in less than an hour we secured four subscribers, and to-day (Sunday), while busy writing my report to our S. E. C., he handed me another. If every member showed the same activity as this one in getting subs, there would be no more need for the Operating Fund.

The meeting in Wesley City, a mining camp across the river from here, which was called for the purpose of organizing a Section, turned out a failure. For some reason or other only a few showed up. We succeeded, however, in getting two subscribers. On the advice of Lingenfelter, I attempted to get before the Building Laborers' Council at their meeting last Thursday night, but was turned down. My credentials were handed in at 8:25 p. m. but the chairman used the flimsy pretext that I was too late. I suppose if I had got around at 8 p. m. I would have been too early.

We held a meeting last night in the south end of the city. The audience was made up of miners, most of whom were out of work, and for that reason nothing much was accomplished to speak of.

On the same night we attended the German Singing Society meeting and succeeded in selling some books and landing a sub. This ends my work in Peoria. I will leave to-morrow morning (Monday) for Kingston, a mining camp, and will be there a day; then proceed to Canton and Dummerline, where I am in hopes of meeting with success.

Chas. Pierson.

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 2.

YOUNGSTOWN GETS SUBS AT STREET MEETING.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Last night, August 1st, marked an interesting epoch in the history of agitation carried on in Youngstown. C. L. Covert took the stand, and pointed out the failures in the old political parties, as well as in craft unionism. The speaker called attention to the fact that within a stone's throw from where he stood was seen, a few weeks ago, a human being rummaging in a garbage can in order to satisfy his dire wants. Covert made it plain that if anything like this was to exist under Socialism, it would not be Socialism. He also showed how the iron, steel and tin workers had been forced to accept a reduction in the past few weeks, which brought their wages almost down to those of an ordinary laborer, and still they belong to Sammy's "unions."

We secured 42 signatures on a nomination petition, 4 subscriptions to the Daily and Weekly People, and 4 applications for membership to the S. L. P. Considering the only activity by Covert and myself, this was as good as could be expected.

We will continue to hold forth every Saturday night from now on, as much interest is taken at these meetings. We hope to have a large Section soon.

J. R. Maley.

Youngstown, O., Aug. 2.

ENTHUSIASM IN WASHINGTON.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Just a few words to the comrades throughout the country as to the work we are doing toward building up the S. L. P. in Washington, with the able assistance of our National Organizer, Gillhaus.

Since he has been here the comrades of all Sections of the State have increased their efforts and "buckled down to the good work" like "Trojans." The result has been that here in Seattle the Section has taken in six good members, doubled its sales of literature and increased the subscription list of The People, adding to it twenty more regular readers with more to come.

Section Hoquiam took in three new members at their last meeting, with more to come in the near future. They also increased their literature sales, as well as getting subscriptions for The People.

Section Tacoma has been practically

revolutionized, and the members over there are "chock full" of enthusiasm. They have rented one of the best halls in town, for which they are paying forty dollars per month, and I have just received a letter from the Organizer there, in which he assures me they are going to "wake up that sleepy old burg." He also asks me to send a speaker for Sunday, August 2nd. Gillhaus is going to try to get there if it is possible. We sent Gillhaus to Bellingham last night, and to-night he speaks there also. Tomorrow night he is billed for meetings at Lynden and will most likely remain in that vicinity all next week. It is probable that he will be able to organize a Section or two up there.

In conclusion, I will say that we are all very much pleased with the shot that the convention "fired" into the ranks of the "Desirable Citizens," in the nomination of our persecuted comrade Preston. Oh! but didn't it make them howl! They took the S. P. convention as a JOKE, but—HELLO! they can't see anything HUMOROUS in that S. L. P. shot.

Three cheers for PRESTON and MUNRO and the Fighting S. L. P. Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!!!

J. E. Riordan.

Seattle, Wash., July 24.

"PROGRESS" IN ALABAMA.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I notice in the Daily People of the 24th inst. that one of our New York comrades was arrested for distributing literature. Birmingham is not backward on this score. The S. P. had a street meeting here the past week with a speaker by the name of Goebel from New Jersey. Goebel and one Mr. Walherst, S. P. candidate for Mayor, were arrested and fined \$50 each for "obstructing the street" and "violating the city ordinance." Democratic and Salvation Army meetings are not interfered with.

As "our Hon." bachelor Mayor Geo. W. Ward, stated in the capitalist press that "Socialist meetings are dangerous, especially since we have a big strike on hand," as he could notice that at each "incendiary" remark the speakers made the crowd went wild with applause, and that did not seem to please his honor.

So you will see we are progressing as far South as Birmingham.

S. L. P.

Birmingham, Ala., July 26.

THE FAR EAST HAS LEARNED DIFFERENT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Where is the point in this recent, belittling talk about the "business morals" of the Japanese? Is the commercial class of Japan after fifty years experience with American business methods perchance beginning to turn that experience to profit? Are our American traders suffering from the very trick of trade they have taught the foreigners? It is now fifty-five years since Perry in that stand-and-deliver way held up the Island Empire and compelled it to accept his "honorable" propositions. Wouldn't you expect them to learn something in all this time? Sure! Hence those tears.

An old sailor told my friend a story of how he was once strolling through the market place of a city in one of those Oriental countries and came upon a small trader who had just returned to his stall and was wringing his hands in grief and exclaiming, "A Christian has been here! A Christian has been here!" Some of his goods had vanished and the cash-equivalent was not apparent. The sailor explained that it was customary in that part of the world for proprietors of stalls to sometimes leave them for hours together. If a buyer happened to come along and took a fancy to any of the articles he merely looked at the price attached and left the money in its place. Our Christian had taken the articles but forgot to leave the money. But that was a good while ago. The East is wiser now. It has learned and is putting into practice the Western World methods.

Cyprien.

Maryland, July 31.

AN S. L. P. TALK TO PAINTERS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—At a special meeting in June, 1908, Local Union No. 194, of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, passed resolutions endorsing the principles and platform of the Socialist party. Their resolution was published in the Painters' Journal.

Last night, in Local 166 of this organization, the question of endorsing the action of No. 194 came up. The

question was thrown open for discussion. Some members said that the whole American Federation of Labor was rotten from Sam Gompers down, and that it was high time something was done. Some stated that the Socialist party was not the party of the working class; that the Socialist Labor Party was the only political party of the working class. Others said that both were the same; it was only a matter of carrying on education.

One member stated that the Socialist party was not the party of the working class, because at its last convention it passed resolutions creating race hatred, the same as the Democrats do down South. This member also charged that that party passed resolutions straddling the trade union. It straddled, knowing that that union declares for a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, knowing there is nothing fair short of the full value of what the worker produces. This member went on to argue this question, saying: "How can anyone claim that the interests of bosses and employees are identical when the bosses' own statistics show that out of every dollar of wealth that the worker produces the capitalist takes 83 cents? Because the workers receive such small wages, the commodities are not bought from the market, and that is why they are left to rot or are burned up by the capitalists. This is what they did out West with the corn and the same down South with cotton. And still people died for the want of food and clothing."

The speaker then showed that whenever the workers lined up against their economic masters, the bosses would try to create dissensions by raising questions of race hatred and immigration and other matters. "Now, this is just what the Socialist party is doing. It is also silent on the vital question of unionism. Instead of pointing out that the craft form of organization keeps the workers divided and makes them scab on one another when on strike, it carefully ducks the question."

The speaker finished by explaining industrial unionism. A motion was carried to endorse the action of No. 194, not, however, before some others acknowledged the S. L. P. as the only working class political party.

Chas. Wilson.

New Orleans, July 29.

THE "APPEAL TO REASON" TROUNCED.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The "Appeal to Reason" is again showing its venom towards the Socialist Labor Party by trying to answer a question without stating the facts in the case. In the issue of the "Appeal" of July 25, 1908, an intellectual from Bakersfield, California, wants to know "who this Socialist Labor Party is, and why union cannot be affected between it and the Socialist party," and he says that "a convict has been nominated for President by this party." This questioner that brands a workingman as a convict, because he dared to assert his right as a courageous man in industrial siege, as there was in Goldfield at the time, will certainly prove himself a Judas Iscariot at the final arraignment of this unnatural system. The "Appeal" in its blatant style states the Socialist Labor Party was the original Socialist party but on account of its tactics it never seemed able to get much of a following. A large following and votes seems to be the slogan of this vote soliciting sheet. Education seems to be a secondary consideration.

Does the "Appeal" remember that the Populist Party had a large following and an encouraging number of votes in its infancy, but soon went down to its final resting place? If the Socialist Party with its extraordinary platform should lump together 750,000 votes this fall, I am sure that 700,000 of these voters would not know why they voted the Socialist ticket. I heard a railroad man remark a few days ago that he would vote for Debs at the coming election because Debs at one time was a good "union man." Shortly afterwards this same man remarked that Teddy was the best President "We" ever had, because he surely made the big trusts tremble.

A big following and votes count for naught if the principles of an organization are not upheld by its leaders. If those principles are prostituted by its leaders what can be expected of the rank and file except to look upon their defeat as inevitable and sink to a lower stage of understanding?

The "Appeal" says that only twenty-three delegates attended the national convention of the Socialist Labor Party. What matters it if there were only three in these deplorable times? Who bears the expense of delegates? None but those that toll. I am sure that the capitalist class through its branch, "Trades Unionism," would not donate a dollar to the Socialist Labor Party.

The S. L. P. has a party press that keeps its readers informed of events. This party press does not devote its pages to advertising wild-cat land

schemes, and asking the comrades to buy land in the hot air belt of Indian Territory and Texas on the installment plan as an inducement.

The "Appeal" says that the S. L. P. as a body will not unite with the Socialist party. In my opinion the so-called Socialist party as an organization, stands just one degree above the Salvation Army as far as adhering to cause is concerned. And to unite with such a party with its tanglefoot platform would be worse than foolish.

I personally have met more than a few of the shining lights of the Socialist party and found many of them to be ex-preachers and renegade politicians of the old parties. They have one view, and that is to make an easy living. They will go to the limit to get the money. A principle is not their guiding post.

If the Socialist Labor Party dwindles down to one member, it will not hurt the organization. The S. L. P. with its clear-cut issue is bound to be the dominant party.

I have before me Eugene Sue's works, seven books in all, which I have read with great interest. I have observed particularly the characters and have noted how proletarians have been continually sold and betrayed by their leaders. This reminds me of how the laboring class are sold and betrayed by the labor fakirs and traitors in modern days.

M. R. Preston is innocent of the crime that he is serving time in prison for. Any one who says different is either misinformed by the superstitious press, or willfully slanders a workingman that had the courage to assert his right in an industrial siege, as was the case in Goldfield at the time. Preston did, as I would have done, defended my life against a plutocratic slunk.

These same vultures have not a word to say about that hired assassin that shot and wounded Vincent St. John on the streets of Goldfield.

There are great times coming. Let us get together and emancipate ourselves without inviting bloodshed through traitorous methods.

Thomas Dickman.

Keeler, Cal.

FORTY-NINE CENTS' WORTH OF CAPITALIST "BRAINS."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—To-day I had a fresh experience of the great brains of capitalists. Roup had broken out in my flock of chickens, and, never having had any experience fighting roup, I asked several neighbors what they did for it. They all told me to send to town and get a celebrated roup cure, which has just arrived. Much to my surprise, I found it was a mixture of alum and blue stone powdered. The package contained less than four ounces, the price was fifty cents.

The wholesale price of alum and blue stone is about 3 cents a pound for each. The possible cost of putting up a package like this (for alum, blue stone, box and printed wrapper) would be about one cent, which leaves forty-nine cents' worth of capitalist "brains" in the package.

When growing up I learned the drug trade, and therefore know the prices.

G. S. H.

Kelseyville, Cal., July 27.

TELLING WORK IN PEORIA.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Section Peoria sends you one sub to the Daily, and twenty-three to the Weekly People; this is the result of one week's work. Due credit should be given Koechlin and Schlag, especially the former, as he secured no less than six of the above subs. We held two successful street meetings, selling 38 books and landing four subscribers to the Weekly People.

Another meeting will be held during the coming week and we hope for still better success. Section Peoria can't boast of a big membership, but if they show the same activity when I am gone as they do now, and I have every reason to believe they will, you can look for better reports in the future.

The economic conditions in Peoria are not quite as bad as they are in other sections of the country, but as it is they are bad enough.

An effort will be made to organize a section of coal miners in Wesley City, a mining camp across the river from here. A meeting has been arranged for that purpose this coming Monday night. The Rep-Demo politicians as usual are busy at their old tricks in leading the workers into the shambles of the capitalist class. During the past week several of their leading lights have addressed meetings here.

So far I find the sentiment for Socialism to be much better in the shops than I canvassed last week than it was when I was here some five years ago. This is encouraging, and I hope to see those who expressed themselves favorably to our cause become active members in the S. L. P. I have met and spoken to several members of the S. P. local, and while they expressed

LETTER OF DECLINATION

M. R. Preston States Reasons for Withdrawing from the Presidential Nomination.

To the Members of the N. E. C., Socialist Labor Party, and Members in General:

Comrades and Fellow Workers:—

Wishing myself clearly understood as to my declination of the Presidential nomination, I present a more detailed account of my reasoning.

For support in my past trials and my present efforts to secure justice, as well as for sympathy and encouragement, I am indebted to members of all political parties, and especially to both Socialist parties. These obligations are more personal than general, and are of such a nature that my manhood and principles of belief forbid me to ignore them.

There are members of the Socialist and other parties who have sacrificed and worked much in my behalf, and I am assured will do so in the future. Thus, I have received and shall continue to receive favors and assistance from people and organizations for whom I desire to show the respect due them, by taking no active part in outside affairs and politics to the detriment or ill will of any.

Am I looking out for my own needs (or neck)? Candidly, yes, in one sense of the word; but besides that I owe a duty to all those who have supported me and had faith in my innocence, which I shall try to fulfil in so far as I am able.

On the day after the convention nominated me I received, indirectly, a telegram from Comrade L. C. Haller, Los Angeles, Cal., notifying me of my nomination and instructing me to telegraph headquarters as to my acceptance or declination; which I complied with by sending the telegram received by Comrade Daniel De Leon, within an hour after I first received news of my nomination. Thus you may see that in declining I acted entirely on my own responsibility, without having heard from my attorney, Judge Hilton.

It may be judged that I am compromising. If so, I plead that, in accepting the support and aid of all, I have assumed obligations which are binding and justly so.

After a thorough consideration, in which I have tried to analyze and give thought to all points, my obligations, the demands made of me, and my position, I am convinced that my only proper move is to decline, which I have tried to do as gracefully as possible and with as much consideration for and protection to my benefactors as I may give. I am sending this for publication, and in order that my position may be known and understood by a greater number, I am sending a like letter to The Miners' Magazine. This latter move is to reach many of my direct supporters in this State and the near West who do not receive The People, and may have been misled by newspaper reports.

As the above is the result of my best judgment I hope that my declination may prove acceptable. Hoping that I have moved for the best, I remain,

Yours for victory,

M. R. Preston.

Carson City, Nev., July 17.

ANDREW NELSON.

Resolutions adopted by Section Cook County, Socialist Labor Party, on the death of Andrew Nelson.

Whereas, Comrade Andrew Nelson, was on July 8, 1908, murdered by the capitalist juggernaut while at work,

Whereas, The Socialist Labor Party has lost a tried and true comrade, who always did his duty in ever trying to educate his fellow workmen to their class interest; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Section Cook County feels keenly the loss of our comrade, and calls upon the members to take up and push with greater vigor the work left by him, and carry on the educating of the working class, so that by their united effort they put a stop to the murders of capitalism and capitalism itself; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be placed upon our minutes, and a copy be sent to the family and the Party papers.

Albert Lingenfelter,

Chas. Pierson,

Committee.

themselves in favor of unity, they still cling to the ferlorn hope that the two parties will get together.

Two subscribed to the Weekly People and as they promised me they would read the paper carefully, I trust they will see the error of their ways and come over where they belong, in the ranks of the S. L. P.

Chas. Pierson.

Peoria, Ill., July 26.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

S. H. GOLDFIELD, NEV.—Now to your second point—

"If Preston had studied economics he could not have been used by the W. F. of M. to walk up and down before Silva's restaurant?"—It is to be hoped that the knowledge of economics will not so twist a workingman's mind as to cause him to ignore the necessity of aggressive Unionism. Picketing is an indispensable weapon of aggressive Unionism.

Next point next week.

E. M., INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—"Really, and sincerely," you believe Debs on the stump will speak for Preston's liberation and denounce his imprisonment? That would be manly, but then he should be manly, not by halves, but in full. He should then withdraw in favor of Preston.

W. J. H., RENO, NEV.—Even if all the charges you make against Preston, for his excessive delicacy and not wishing to appear by name on the ballot, were just, it in no way affects the issue. Charges untold were made and are made against Washington and Jefferson. Yet these in no way affected the issues they incarnated.

W. A., CROTONA, N. Y.—"Inheritance" (private inheritance) is a consequence of "family property." The former evil flowed from the latter institution, which arose with the dissolution of tribal bonds as a result of the much cracked-up "individualism."

C. K., LOUISVILLE, KY.—Ignorance, accompanied by servitude, breeds lack of self-respect. Hence the constant effort of the ruling class to promote ignorance among the people, and, when total ignorance is impossible, to adulterate knowledge in such way as to render it even more hurtful to self-respect than total ignorance would be.

F. A. G., CHICAGO, ILL.—The A. F. of L. can not resist the rude shocks of this campaign. Gompersism is going—let it go in peace. "When half-gods go, the gods arrive."

E. S., BOSTON, MASS.—The final invasion of Gaul by the Franks took place in the 5th century under Clovis. From that time on there were Frankish dynasties that succeeded each other down to the Revolution of 1848. They were: 1st, the Merovingian dynasty; 2nd, the Carolingian; 3rd, the Capetian. These three were successive usurpations, without the claim of heredity; 4th, the Valois dynasty; 5th, the Bourbon dynasty, of which Charles X. was the last representative, and 6th, the Orleans dynasty, which started and went out with Louis Philippe in 1848.

S. E. C., BUTTE, MONT.—The Rappites were prohibitionists in the sense that they did not drink. But they manufactured large quantities of dis-

tilled liquor and drew a large revenue from the sale of the same.

T. V. D., CINCINNATI, O.—Immigration is reported to have been cut down fully fifty per cent.

W. I., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Write to the headquarters of the respective parties. They will be glad to furnish you with copies of their platform.

B. M., DALLAS, TEX.—It is a test of sincerity. A sincere disputant will love you for showing him his error; an insincere one will hate you all the more.

T. J. R., ALBANY, N. Y.—Hard to tell. The census of 1790 gives in the then sixteen States 694,284 slaves, besides 3,417 in the then S.-W. and N. territories. Of the sixteen States, all but two—Maine and Massachusetts—are reported to have slaves.

A. E. E., NEW YORK—Socialism is one in its essence. That does not take away that it undergoes modifications in different climates and in different historic surroundings. That is a biologic necessity. Draper quotes an ecclesiastical historian as saying: "A clear and unpolluted fountain fed by secret channels with the dew of heaven, when it grows a large river, and takes a long and winding course, receives a tincture from the various soils through which it passes." If this may be said to happen with "clear and unpolluted fountains fed by secret channels with the dew of heaven," it must be an unavoidable accompaniment of Socialism, which makes no pretence of a "Heavenly" origin. Socialism is Socialism, like man is man, whether his hair be blonde or black.

J. S., HOBOKEN, N. J.—There is but one way to learn a thing—and that is TO LEARN IT. Sit down; study hard; think solidly. You will then be able to speak.

W. E. S., BOSTON, MASS.—The book will be reviewed.

A. M. S., ERIE, PA.—All that is needed is firmness with plenty of good nature. The fiercer the waves beat, all the more exhilarating is the conflict. Spread your bread upon the waters.

P. D. L., KANSAS CITY, MO.—The law of capitalism is a denial of individuality and individual property. As Marx puts it—Capitalist production has for its fundamental condition the annihilation of self-earned private property.

L. A., TACOMA, WASH.—State in what edition of Gibbons page 313 falls. There are many editions of Gibbons. Each has a different paging.

R. L. C., PHOENIX, ARIZ.; W. R. P., GARFIELD, WASH.; M. B., PASADENA, CAL.; M. E., CINCINNATI, O.; A. R., BROOKLYN, N. Y.; R. S., OGDEN, WASH.—Matter received.

HOW THEY HOWL

Comments of the Capitalist Press on the Nomination of Preston.

From a barred cell in a penitentiary to the White House at Washington, from convict to President of the United States—that is the transformation that the Socialist Labor party would work in the condition of Martin R. Preston.

It is now common knowledge that a convict in stripes, serving his fellow convicts in the capacity of a waiter in the Nevada State Prison at Carson, Preston has been nominated for the highest office in the gift of the people of this great country or in the world.

Martin R. Preston, convicted of killing a fellow-being in a manner that hundreds of fair-minded citizens declared to be cold-blooded murder, would be placed at the head of the nation if the nominators could have their way, says a Goldfield special to the New York World.

Even though a miracle could be wrought and a sufficient number of votes to elect were cast for him, the fat, complacent little Socialist who passes the coffee and hash to the other unwilling guests of the State of Nevada could never be seated in the Presidential chair. He is not eligible and could not become eligible, even though he should be pardoned for the crime for which he is serving twenty-five years in the Carson Penitentiary—he is too young.—The Evening Telegraph, Phila., July 28.

CONVICT NAMED FOR PRESIDENT.

The Socialist Labor party held a National Convention in New York City

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Paul Augustine, National Secretary.
28 City Hall Place.
CANADIAN S. L. P.
National Secretary, Philip Courtenay,
144 Ducess Ave., London, Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
(The Party's literary agency.)
28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

GILLHAUS TOUR EASTWARD.

In making the arrangements for this tour, the N. E. C. had in mind the object of a Campaign Agitation earlier than usual, combined with the purpose of organizing wherever possible en route.

It is expected that the comrades of the Sections where Gillhaus is to speak will do their utmost to prepare the meetings for him, and advertise them thoroughly so as to insure as large an attendance as is possible.

Devise ways and means that will enable you to reach the workers with the LITERATURE of the Party at these meetings, and a method that will enable the Section to keep in touch with those it reaches with our literature, with the object of eventually securing them as co-workers of the Party.

PUSH THE DAILY AND WEEKLY PEOPLE.

PUSH THE S. L. P. LITERATURE.

PUSH THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FUND LISTS.

Butte Mont.—August 21—22.
Fargo, N. D.—August 24.
Duluth, Minn.—August 25.
St. Paul, Minn.—August 26.
Minneapolis, Minn.—August 27—28.
Winona, Minn.—August 29.
Milwaukee, Wis.—August 31—September 1.
Sheboygan, Wis.—September 2.
Chicago, Ill.—September 3, 4 and 5.
Lansing, Mich.—September 7.
Detroit, Mich.—September 8.
Cleveland, Ohio.—September 10.
Indianapolis, Ind.—September 17.
Pittsburgh, Pa.—October 1.
Paul Augustine, Nat'l Secretary.

N. Y. S. E. C.

Meeting held on August 3, at headquarters, 28 City Hall Place.

The committee which was elected at General Party Meeting are holding regular meetings, devising ways and means for the carrying on of the campaign and meeting with success in the collection of money.

Several Notaries have filed the petition lists in their respective counties and returned same to State Committee. The others not having been heard from are requested to get a hustle on themselves and let the State Committee hear from them.

Communication from Jacobson in reference to securing signatures, he having no time for same at present. As Organizer of Westchester County he returned a vote refusing to recognize same due to it having been sent by Secretary of Correspondence Bureau.

Brannick, notary, completed Cayuga County and sent in same; impossible to proceed further due to sickness. McCormick has been engaged for the last two weeks in August to canvass upper counties in state.

Reinstein started on his trip to gather signatures; requests that he may be permitted to order as much literature as he may deem necessary. Motion to grant request.

Financial report for July: Income, \$131.55; Expenditure, \$136.42.
F. A. Olpp, Sec'y.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY CAUCUSES IN BOSTON.

The voters of the Socialist Labor Party in Boston are hereby called to meet in caucus on FRIDAY, August 21. Caucus will be held at 1165 Tremont street, and will be called to order at 8 p. m. by the chairman. The caucus is to elect delegates to the State Convention and will also elect a City Committee of three. This caucus is called and held in accordance with Section 136 of Chapter 11, Revised Statutes. No one not an enrolled voter of the Socialist Labor Party will be allowed to take part in this caucus.

By order of the City Committee, Socialist Labor Party,

141 n—L, miffmm
George Nelson,
Chairman;
John Sweeney,
Secretary.

ST. LOUIS OPEN AIR MEETINGS.

THURSDAY, August 13.—Broadway and Barry st. Speakers: John Neumann in English, F. Zerman in German, G. Kish in Hungarian.

SATURDAY, August 15.—Broadway and Barry st. Speakers: Henry Poelling F. Zerman in German, G. Kish in Hungarian.

ST. LOUIS PICNIC.

Section St. Louis, Socialist Labor Party, has arranged for a picnic and outing at Volz's Grove, on SUNDAY, August 23, beginning at 9 a. m. Good music and singing will be had, refreshments of all kinds will be provided. Games and an all around good time is guaranteed. Admission 10 cents.

Take Cherokee through cars, change to Lakewood car, which will take you to the grove.

The Committee.

CINCINNATIANS, ATTENTION!

On SUNDAY, August 16, Section Cincinnati, S. L. P., will give its second picnic of the year at Lohman's Park, Oakley. Admittance to the grounds will be free, and we hope to see all our friends with their families, "if fortunate enough to have any," at the picnic. Of course, those of our friends without families should also come along.

A splendid band has been engaged so that all those inclined to dance will have the opportunity of satisfying their inclination.

Enough of that product, which it is claimed "made Milwaukee famous," will be on hand to satisfy the thirst of 5,000 people, even though they were of the girth of the Republican candidate for President.

As all the money made at this picnic will be used for the purpose of spreading our ideas among the working class, we hope that all those in sympathy with our movement will assist us all they can to make this picnic a success.

Picnic Committee.

CANADA N. E. C.

Regular meeting of N. E. C. of Canada, held at 67 Bathurst street, on July 26. Absent—Morrison; excused. Minutes adopted as read.

Letter from Pierson, Chicago, stating that our letter was read before the S. E. C., and that the Illinois comrades had raised funds to retain him there for present. Received and filed and secretary's answer be indorsed.

From Section London, notifying N. E. C. that Charles Nichol had been elected to N. E. C. Same received and filed and comrade seated.

From Farrell, of North Bay, enclosing five dollars for the Agitation Fund and endorsing action of N. E. C. Secretary instructed to reply.

From Neve, of Montreal, enclosing one dollar for Agitation Fund. Received and filed, and secretary to reply. Also endorsing election of Courtenay and Nichol to N. E. C. from G. A. Maves, Toronto. Received and filed.

National Secretary reported not being able to find R. E. Burns of Hamilton. Burns requested to correspond with I. P. Courtenay, now National Secretary, 144 Ducess Ave., London.

National Secretary reported that he had been unable to secure property of N. E. C. from late National Secretary Forbes. Moved and seconded that Forbes be requested to turn over all property and funds to I. P. Courtenay. Carried.

After considerable discussion re Pierson it was decided to keep adding to propaganda fund in order to be better able to further the cause later on. Moved, seconded and carried that National Secretary write Section London to properly correspond with the N. E. C.

Moved by Haselgrove, seconded by Pierce, that G. L. Bryce be appointed treasurer. Carried.

Moved and seconded that order be drawn on the treasurer for one dollar for postage. Carried.

Adjourned.

F. Haselgrove,
Rec. Sec'y.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY ORGANS.

Weekly People, 28 City Hall Place,
N. Y., per year 1.00
Daily People, 28 City Hall Place,
N. Y., per year 3.50
Arbetearen (Swedish Weekly) 28
City Hall Place, N. Y., per year 1.50
Der Arbeiter (Jewish Weekly), 28
City Hall Place, N. Y., per year .50
Socialistische Arbeiter Zeitung
(German Weekly), 310 Cham-
plain ave., Cleveland, O., per
year 1.00
Nepakarat (Hungarian Semi-week-
ly), 516 East Sixth street, N. Y.,
per year 2.00
Egione Nuova (Italian Monthly),
206 Atwell ave., Providence,
R. I., per year25

He who comes in contact with workmen reading either of these languages should not fail to call attention to these papers and endeavor to secure subscriptions. Sample copies will be sent upon request. Address each paper as per address given above, and not as often the case to the Labor News.

Paul Augustine, National Secretary,
28 City Hall Place, New York.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

FALLING IN LINE

ACTIVITY SEEMS TO BE GROWING—KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

This week receipts of subs is a marked increase over that of last week. 130 subs to the Weekly, 39 to the Daily People. Let the comrades not rest on their oars, but continue the good work during the coming week.

Those sending in two or more were:

J. A. Leach, Phoenix, Ariz. 3
No Name, Plainfield, N. J. 2
J. R. Maley, Youngstown, Ohio 4
N. Wisser, Reading, Pa. 2
John Kircher, Cleveland, O. 2
T. F. Brennan, Salem, Mass. 2
C. Pierson, Peoria, Ill. 25
E. Kriz, Superior, Wis. 2
J. Knudsen, Jamaica Plains, Mass. 5
C. E. Warner, New Haven, Conn. 2
Fred Brown, Cleveland, Ohio 7
Aug. Gillhaus, Seattle, Wash. 5
G. A. Jennings, East St. Louis, Ill. 2
E. T. Holmes, Chicago, Ill. 2
D. G. O'Hanrahan, Seattle, Wash. 3
Geo. M. Sterry, Providence, R. I. 2
A. McInnis, Lansing, Mich. 2
L. E. Lafferty, Woodland Beach, Del. 3
H. E. Long, San Francisco, Cal. 4
L. C. Haller, Los Angeles, Cal. 2
L. Glinther, Colorado Springs, Colo. 4
Press Committee, Boston, Mass. 2
Press Committee, Cincinnati, Ohio

Ohio 5
B. Rugg, Canton, Ohio 4
Prepaid Cards:
John Kircher, Cleveland, O. \$4; 33rd and 35th A. D's, New York, \$2; W. J. Gerry, Colorado Springs, Colo. \$1.40.

Labor News orders show up well. However, we have the stock on hand and facilities to handle ten times this amount. Don't let the hard times frighten you from asking your fellow worker to invest five or ten cents in good, sound literature. He is waiting to be asked if you will only go about it in the right way. Following are the sales of \$1 or more:

So. Hudson Co., N. J. \$ 1.48
Aug. Gillhaus, Seattle, Wash. 11.40
Newark, N. J. 1.00
Birmingham, Ala. 9.32
Spokane, Wash. 20.00
New Castle, Pa. 4.40
Vancouver, B. C. 1.06
Boston, Mass. 5.00
Philadelphia, Pa. 4.00
Broken Hill, Australia 2.43
Canton, Ohio 1.25
Seattle, Wash. 4.00
Minersville, Pa. 2.00
Colorado Springs, Colo. 1.50
N. Y. City 4.20
Grand Junction, Colo. 3.00
Steubenville, Ohio 2.80

AN EXPLANATION

Pat O'Neill Takes Off His Hat to M. R. Preston.

For the last three weeks I have been literally on the hike, and nearly all of that work has lain in the country, where I could not get hold of a newspaper, so the procession had left me.

I did not know the Socialist Labor Party, which is a distinct and separate organization from the Socialist Party had nominated a candidate for president, until chancing into the office one day last week I found letters saying the capitalist papers were advertising a convict named Preston as our candidate. One of the correspondents said he thought Preston nominated by the S. L. P. I wrote a short sculp headed Capitalist Chatter to explicitly affirm that Eugene V. Debs was the candidate of the party The Toller supports.

I had but an hour at disposal at the time. Since then I have learned who and what Martin R. Preston is.

And I say frankly I lift my hat to him, for he was as guiltless of crime as you or I.

He was a loyal member of his union and at the time of his trouble was on strike—during the strike at Goldfield, when Teddy hurried soldiers there, and the masters advertised the A. F. of L. as strike breakers.

Among those on strike were a lot of girls working in a restaurant, and Preston was detailed by his union to picket the street and tell the people the restaurant was unfair.

The proprietor of the place opened fire on him, Preston shot back, killing the would-be murderer.

For the awful crime of defending his own life this union man is sent to prison for twenty-five years. Gods! and in this land where they say men are equal before the law.

Tried before a judge like Taft or Woods, who declared the Haywood jury to be perjured fools, conviction was certain.

Because it was not so much Martin R. Preston on trial as our right to organize and go on strike. These judges care nothing for the man brought before them, but they do care for what those men represent.

And Preston represented you and me. He was giving battle against oppression for the daughters and sisters of working men. And do not think he is the only one so suffering, for Albert Ryan, a personal friend of mine, is also behind bars charged with the same crime of self-defense.

No wonder the capitalist papers united in a burst of bloodthirsty vituperation when some band of workers had the supreme courage to nominate this dauntless man.

Do you know why?

In 1892 Crispien was prime minister of Italy and used all the machinery of his government to oppress the Socialists.

Four of the comrades had been cast into jail for the heinous offense of talking Socialism and condemned to terms of from six months to two years each.

The comrades nominated these men for seats in the chamber of deputies and despite the opposition of the government backed by the masters' newspapers these men were elected and went from their cells to seats in the

legislature. Crispien withered under the defeat just as Teddy would and no lie was too slimy to utter about Socialism over the pulpit, the bank desk and through the columns of the press.

And how many acres of infamous lies and innuendoes against Eugene V. Debs?

Have you not waked up to the fact that when the capitalist press lauds the officers of a labor union it is high time for the union to dump them?

Debs has been true to his class and he is a butt for lies and sneers.

Gompers and Mitchell have ordered union labor to vote for Bryan and they are lauded as great labor leaders.

Now, Preston was on the fighting line of labor—a strike picket.

He was true to you and me. The man who tried to murder him was an oppressor of working girls, and my daughter is a working girl—he was her enemy.

Preston defended my daughter. Did he defend yours?

If you are a union man the same trap that caught Preston may bite you if you have the courage to strike.

Martin R. Preston was defending me and mine—I am in his debt, and I hope that here on earth, or out into "the beyond" I may always remember it and have the manhood to pay on sight.

Martin R. Preston, Pat O'Neill salutes you—From the New Orleans "Toller," July 30.

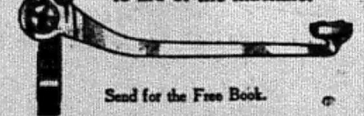
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NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
28 City Hall Place, New York.

OPERATING FUND.

If you are doing nothing in the way of getting subs for The People, do the next best thing by contributing to this fund. But by all means do something.

A. Grieb, New York City... \$2.00
Fred. Oliver, Round Mountain, Nevada 1.50
Guenther, San Francisco, Cal. 1.00
M. Gassel, " " 1.00
C. J. H. Berg, " " 1.00
Martin Anderson, Valley City, N. D.50
Godfrey Anderson, Valley City, N. D.50
Ernest K., New York City .25
D. Raphael, N. Y. City.... \$2.00
H. L. Berger, " " 1.00
E. S., Newport News, Va. 1.00
Geo. Willrich, Denver, Colo. 1.00
J. H. Johanson, Detroit, Mich.25
J. W. Johnson, Oakland, Cal. 1.00
C. A. Johnson, " " 1.00
B. Frankford, " " 1.00
A. Weinstock, " " 1.00
Previously acknowledged. 2,887.19

Grand Total.....\$2,904.19

SIBERIAN HORRORS.

Cruelties Inflicted Upon Prisoners—Whipped with Wire Knouts and Salt Poured into Wounds.

When Dostoyevski, in his "Memoires of a Death House," pictured the conditions in the Siberian "katorga" in the middle of the last century, the whole civilized world raised a protest. "Constitutional" Russia, at the beginning of the twentieth century, has put the worst times of Nicholas I. far into shade. The conditions prevailing at present in the Siberian "Death Houses," exceed in inhuman cruelty anything that the most bloodthirsty imagination could invent.

At the end of last January, disturbances broke out in prison No. 2 at Tobolsk. These disturbances were caused by the increasing reprisals of Prison Superintendent Mogilew, at which, on one occasion, an onlooker and two prisoners were killed and several wounded. As punishment for this, all the inmates of the chamber in which the disturbance occurred, and also those of the adjoining chambers who never participated, were "treated" to 100 lashes of the "knout," and in addition 40 prisoners were handed over to court-martial.

The court met at the beginning of April. During the trial the fact was established that the prisoners had to undergo unheard of cruelties. For instance, several prisoners were lashed with knouts made of wire strands and their wounds filled with salt. It was also proven that an especially refined method of torture was instituted—the "hot cell." The victim was put into a small room, scarcely large enough to allow a man to lie down. On both sides of the room stoves were heated day and night. The temperature in this cell was such that no one could stand it longer than 24 hours. Whenever a prisoner became unconscious he would be carried into the yard, and, when revived, would be dragged back into the hot box. During all his stay in there no drink was given him.

In spite of all these exposures the military court remained stolidly impassive. Of the 40 defendants, thirteen were condemned to death, fourteen received addition imprisonment, and thirteen were acquitted.

All those condemned to death asked for pardon. The court itself favored that the death penalty of five of them be commuted. But the "judgment" was confirmed and executed on April 27th.

The execution took place in the prison yard. The prison was surrounded by soldiery, police and cossacks. As there was only one gallows, the victims were hung one after another. The procedure therefore, lasted seven hours, from 1 a. m. to 8 a. m.—"Russian Bulletin," July 20.

FOR ALL THOSE WHO FAIL.

"All honor to him who shall win the prize."
The world has cried for a thousand years;
But to him who tries and who falls and dies
I give great honor and glory and tears.

Oh, great is the hero who wins a name,
But greater many and many a time
Some pale-faced fellow who dies in shame
And lets God finish the thought sublime.

And great is the man with a sword undrawn,
And good is the man who refrains from wine;
But the man who falls and yet fights on,
Lo! he is the twin-born brother of mine.

—Selected.

CHILDREN'S HOUR

Dear Little Comrades:—

We have another interesting letter from a little comrade in Connecticut. I would suggest to some of you who love biography to select one or two names of the "Big Six," as Selma puts it, and write a short biographical story about them.

The Socialist believes in principles first, but we can many times best understand principles by knowing the men who stood or stand for them. So, who will spare a portion of his or her vacation by doing something useful for Socialism? If it is only one or two important facts about each, send it on.

And now, with many thanks for those who have helped in the past to make our page interesting and also those who have good intentions for the future, I am as ever,

Lovingly,
AUNT ANNETTA.

THE "BIG SIX" SOCIALISTS.

Dear Aunt Annetta and Comrades:—After quite some searching I found some facts about a few Socialist leaders. I found that Karl Marx, who published a pamphlet in 1848, which is now as famous in Europe as the Declaration of Independence in America, is the father of modern Socialism.

I also found that the "Big Six" of Socialism are Marx, the philosopher and oracle; Lassalle, his forerunner; Engels, his closest friend; Kautsky, who picked up this great man's thoughts and scattered them abroad in pamphlets; Liebknecht, who organized the readers of these pamphlets; and Bebel, the Marxian orator.

A prosperous stockbroker who was a leading champion in England, and one of the foremost French Socialists is the owner of a daily paper and a department store—the John Wanamaker of Paris. The Frenchman's name is M. Jean Jaures. Half of the men of the Reichstag are Socialist editors, and about sixty are imprisoned every year for talking impolitely about the king. In Bavaria the Socialist leader is a born aristocrat and ex-officer of cavalry, and in South Germany he is a millionaire manufacturer. The most conspicuous woman lecturer among the English Socialists is a countess of international fame.

It is a curious and little known fact that one of the world's first advocates of Socialism was a New Yorker named Thomas Skidmore, who in 1829 wrote a book in favor of the collective ownership of all the means of production and distribution. "All men should live on their own labor," he said. "We want the right to life, liberty, and property."

At that time the word "Socialism" had not been coined, and the great Marx was a curly-haired child of eleven.

Hope that some comrade will write and tell what the Socialists are doing where she lives, I remain,

Selma Engelmann.
121 High Street, Rockville, Conn.

HEY FOR THE DAY!

T. Maguire. Air—French Canadian.
Darkest is night,
We do not fear;
Dawning is near—
Soon we shall see
Morning all bright
Burst into sight:
There shall be light
Where gloom used to be.

(Chorus.)

Then hey for the day! when wrong shall have flown away,
To be nevermore known; when o'er the land the cause shall command:
Sing hey for the dawn of day!

Ours is the day—

We shall move on,
Fearful of none
Who'd fain see us fall.
Lest the world stray,
Lead we the way
To Freedom for aye,
And Freedom for all.

(Chorus.)

HOW? BY FORCE?

(Continued.)

In 1753 a Virginian boy was sent by Governor Dinwiddie with a message to the French Governor who was holding the posts along the Mississippi for the French. The message explained the reasons why the English were justified in their demands that the French leave at once. It was a very polite message, to be sure, but it ended that if the French did not agree with the English and leave the disputed land, the fisheries, and Indian fur trade, at once, the English would fight. You see, dear teacher, our dear Colonial ancestors tried coaxing, but preferred fighting, sometimes very cruelly, too.

Read the story of the Arcadians. And so the French and Indian wars settled that dispute, not by love, but by force, my dear teacher.

Not many years after, the American Revolution, lasting seven bitter, dreary years, threw off England's yoke and freed the American colonists. You remember that England claimed the right to govern the American colonies, taxing and ruling them so as to benefit the English. To this the brave men and women of those times objected. They tried pleading with their mother country. Their pleadings were in vain. England, the mother of American colonies, saw profits and self-gain in oppressing its child, America, and so would not listen. The Americans didn't stop—did they, teacher? They gathered their men and rifles and did what? FORCED England to give up her rule here. And to-day, you and all the other teachers teach us children to love and revere those Revolutionary heroes for FORCING freedom into the land.

The boys in blue and the boys in gray didn't kill one another by the thousand because they loved each other so much, did they, teacher? For many years before, the North tried to persuade the South that chattel slavery was a curse to the nation and should be abolished. But the South thought it profitable to keep the slaves, and would not listen to the North at all. So it was by force of arms that the South was taught its lesson of obedience to the nation. While the war was on the President issued a proclamation to emancipate the chattel slaves. Every Memorial Day we decorate the graves of those who FORCED the South to give up their bundles of human property.

So far, dear teacher, we have reminded you of fights where one set of rulers forced another set to give up whatever as a hindrance to them. But next week we will show whether it is force or brotherly love that the capitalists use in keeping the working class where they wish them to be.

"KING SOLOMON," A HOBO HERO.

"King Solomon," hero of the 1833 cholera plague in Kentucky, who was buried forty-nine years ago, is to have a monument erected to his memory in Louisville, Kentucky. "King Solomon" was a tramp, kicked and cuffed from place to place, and when the cholera broke out he turned gravedigger when others fled, and ever after was a very useful citizen. The monument will be unveiled Sept. 22.

Now, dear little comrades, the above was not printed in any capitalist paper that I know of, and since it came to me in the course of daily routine and since you little workers have a press, I thought it only fitting to tell the story to you.

"King Solomon," they always called him. None knew or cared to learn his full name. They viewed him in the light of a "hobo," just as to-day thousands of workmen, out of employment on account of the industrial depression, are figured to be. And yet that "hobo Solomon," in a time of great danger to himself—for even his poor and sore body, kicked and cuffed as it was from pillar to post, was as sweet and dear to him as is the rich man's to him—did a grand service to his community. Those that hurled names at "Solomon" and who abused him on every turn, were glad to run away from danger when cholera broke out in their midst and leave the dirty and dangerous work to a poor "hobo."

Dear little friends, the moral of this little story is one that you should ever have as a guide. It is this: The working class has millions of just such heroes as "King Solomon" who are doing the "dirty and dangerous" work for the rest of humanity, and unlike "King Solomon," when they die they want have a monument erected to their memory. True, that doesn't mean much to "King Solomon" to have forty-nine years after his death, but it only shows us that if we work in the interests of our class we shall sooner or later be rewarded for our efforts, not in a material sense, or by having monuments erected to our memories, but in a more lasting and permanent way—and that is in holding the respect of our fellow-men, the only asset worth while.

That is the lesson I want to see instilled in your mind by the story of our hero "King Solomon," a poor, abused member of the working class who lived to make this world a better place for all of us.

UNCLE TIM.

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